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AUSTRALIA

COCON ISLANDERS WANT TO JOIN AUSTRALIA

Melbourne THE AGE in English 17 Sep 82 p 10

[Article by Simon Balderstone]

[Text]

COCON ISLANDS, 18 September. — The 300 Malay residents of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands have rejected independence and chosen to integrate with Australia.

The islands will probably become part of the ACT for electoral purposes, but there is a possibility they could be amalgamated with Western Australia.

No timetable has been set for integration but the Cocos Malays have told the Australian Government they want it to act "with a certain degree of urgency".

The decision follows assurances from the Australian Government that it will not interfere with the culture, traditions or religion of the Malays, or the structure of land tenure on the islands.

The assurance was given by the Minister for Home Affairs and Environment, Mr McVeigh, this week when he visited the islands to hold talks with the islanders' council about the options for self-determination available under the United Nations charter.

Integration could mean that 200 whites on the island — mostly Government employees, including the former ruler, Mr John Clunies-Ross — will lose their tax-free status.

Mr McVeigh said yesterday that a decision about that was a matter for the Treasurer.

The future of the islands, which are on the UN list of non-self-governed territories which require self-determination, is to be discussed soon by the UN.

The remote Australian dependency, 2700 kilometres from Perth, comprises 27 islands with a total of 14 square kilometres.

Mr McVeigh said that the Cocos Islands Council — the representative body of the Malays which makes local government decisions and advises the Government — had a "disposition for integration" and he would now work out the details of the procedure.

These will include Federal legislation covering rights and duties for the islanders who pay no tax and get no social security benefits.

Mr McVeigh will put a submission to Cabinet about the Cocos Council viewpoint. He said the decision about the future of the islands lay entirely with the islanders.

Virtually all the Malays are Australian citizens and think integration is a better option than independence or free association, whereby the island would control its internal affairs and Australia would take responsibility for such areas as foreign affairs and defence.

The UN is to send a mission next year to decide whether the Malays have reached a consensus decision on their future.

CSO: 4200/69

BURMA

BRIEFS

BURMA BOLSTERS POLICE FORCE--Rangoon, October 12 (Reuter)--Burma has added about seven thousand men to its Police force to cope with extra security duties mainly as a result of the army's successful pacification campaign in insurgent-held areas, according to a Parliamentary report issued yesterday. A report issued by the People's Congress (Parliament) said the strength of the force had been raised from 50,862 to 57,881. Policemen would take over security in designated white areas which had now become insurgent-free. The army would remain in charge of so-called brown and black regions where insurgents remained active. About a third of Burma is in the hands of mainly tribal secessionist guerrillas seeking autonomous homelands for their relatively isolated provinces. [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 13 Oct 82 p 5]

CSO: 4200/69

KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SRV TROOP MOVEMENTS--In the period from the end of July to the middle of August, Vietnam increased the strength of its military forces quite heavily, primarily around Surin, Buriram, Aranyaprathet, Chanthaburi and Trat. This includes heavy weapons artillery and modern Soviet tanks which were mobilized and sent into the border districts of Battambang Province and Oddar Meanchey Province. The office of Information announced that Vietnamese troops have yet invaded Thai territory on another two occasions in Sangkha and Kap Cherng Districts, both in Surin Province: four Vietnamese soldiers were captured. Besides that, some 50,000-60,000 Vietnamese troops are thought to be building up along the Thai-Lao border. Military news sources state that a large Vietnamese force in Laos has shifted its position and a large amount of military weapons and hardware has been stationed at Ban Houei Sai, across from Chiang Khong District, Chiang Rai Province. Also a number of tanks have been moved to Ban Pak Lai, in Sayaboury Province, across from Ban Bo Bia, Nam Pad District, Uttaradit Province here in Thailand. As for conflicts between Thai river patrol boats and Lao soldiers, there are still occasional occurrences. Military news sources also report that Lao soldiers have fired at Thai subjects in the area of Sangkhom District and that seven Thai subjects have been taken prisoner in the area of Na Haeo District. Aside from that, the Thai side has captured two Lao soldiers along with their weapons, at That Phanom District, Nakhon Phanom Province.

[Text] [Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 4 Sep 82 pp 25-28] 12241

CSO: 4207/2

SOVIETS MAY GET THAI LOGGING CONCESSION AT NAM NGUM

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 29 Sep 82 p 13

[Text]

LAOTIAN authorities have asked a Thai logging concessionaire to speed up the selling of trees now submerged at Nam Ngum Dam, saying that further delay may lead to the uprooting of decomposed wood which can damage the dam and turbines of power generators. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has offered to assist that country by replacing the Thai firm in implementing the project.

Authoritative sources told *The Nation* yesterday that the Soviet Union has set a condition that while it is willing to "clean the bottom" of the Nam Ngum reservoir free of charge, it wants to take all the submerged timber, which is expected to amount to 400,000 cubic metres.

The Soviet gesture, the sources said, followed difficulties encountered by Udonchai Samarnmit Ltd Part, the logging concessionaire, in raising sufficient capital for the work. However, the firm has decided to join hands with another Thai company, United Timber Co Ltd, to carry out the project.

Udonchai Samarnmit holds registration No. 119 under Laotian regulations. It signed an agreement with that country on Dec 7, last year but nothing much had been done, the sources said.

But after a joint venture agreement, the two firms have begun surveying the submerged trees, which is expected to be completed in weeks from now.

The sources said it is unlikely for the Laotian authorities to accept the Soviet offer, because the Thai firms have proposed more attractive terms which include profit sharing.

The profit sharing will be equal between Laos and the two firms. Moreover, the two are also in a better position because timber from the reservoir would be imported into Thailand. "It is more convenient than exporting timber through Thailand to the Soviet Union," the sources said.

Many private firms have also shown keen interest in this venture but they encountered technical problems while the project requires an investment ranging from 200-400 million baht, the sources said.

The Laotian authorities have set conditions that the reservoir's bottom must be cleaned. All wood must be uprooted as otherwise decomposed trunks can break the dam and turbines of power generators.

The Thai firms are required to place \$300,000 as guarantee to the Laotian authorities against the logging concession which lasts five years.

"Many Japanese and Hong Kong firms also want to handle this project," said the sources, who pointed out that they would be difficult to match the Thai offer, which suggests that cut timber would be paid up to 55 per cent of Laotian timber export value.

The Thai firms expect to cut about 100,000 cubic metres of wood from the reservoir. However, experts estimate that up to 400,000 cubic metres could be cut.

The wood has been submerged for seven years after the dam was built to provide electricity supply to both Laos and Thailand.

But trading between the two neighbouring countries, especially in timber, has not been smooth, the sources said. Thai concessionaires complained that there had been long delay on the part of Laotian authorities in delivery of timber within the schedule.

At the same time, Laotian authorities also complained that Thai firms had tried to take advantage of Laos. The sources said the Thai side suffered financial loss due to the absence of proper trade regulations in that country, while a large number of timber is being left there.

MORE BORDER OPENING

The sources also disclosed that Laos recently asked Thailand to open two more checkpoints to facilitate trade between the two countries.

The Laotian request was made when Commerce Minister Punnamee Punroi led a trade team to that country recently. The proposed two checkpoints are Chong Mek in Ubon Ratchathani Province and Chiang Khong District of Chiang Rai, the sources said.

Currently there are two checkpoints on the common border — Mukdaharn District of Nakhon Phanom and Nong Khai. Commerce Ministry officials are discussing with their counterparts in the Interior Ministry to see whether more border trading points could be allowed.

Sources said illegal trading along the Thai-Laotian border amounts to 10 million baht monthly.

CSO: 4200/64

RIGHT WINGERS WIN IN NOUMEA

Melbourne THE AGE in English 7 Sep 82 p 7

[Article by Helen Fraser]

[Text]

NOUMEA, 8 Sept. — New Caledonia election officials today announced that anti-independence Gaullist leader Mr Jacques Lafleur had won a landslide victory in yesterday's by-election for a French National Assembly seat.

Immediately after the election, the national secretary of the French Socialist Party, Mr Paul Quiles, warned that the re-election of Mr Lafleur "will accentuate cleavages between races, between Kanaks and non-Kanaks" in the territory.

The officials said nearly half the territory's 50,000 voters had abstained.

The election was for the electorate of Noumea and The West in which most of the voters are European.

Mr Lafleur precipitated the election when he resigned in June in protest against the Independence Front gaining power in the Government Council and against the plans by the Socialist Government in Paris for reforms for the territory.

Mr Lafleur gained 91 per cent. of the votes cast. He was opposed only by Mr Michel Jacquet, a fellow member of the Republican Party, who received 8 per cent.

In last year's Assembly election, Mr Lafleur gained 54 per cent of the votes in a field of nine candidates.

The Socialist, Mr Quiles, said that the election proved nothing. "I regret that there wasn't more discussion of the problems for the future," he said. "It is clear that our reforms are essential and that development should be

harmonious, without putting one community against another."

Mr Lafleur's election campaign had focused criticism on the French Government and its reform programme for New Caledonia. The most controversial reform, that concerning land, will enable some tribal lands to be handed back to Melanesian owners.

The French Gaullist leader and former Prime Minister, Mr Jacques Chirac, had campaigned in New Caledonia for Mr Lafleur, vigorously attacking the Socialist Government of President Mitterrand, saying that their reform would lead to division and disorder between races.

The Independence Front and its coalition partner, FNSC, had mounted a campaign of abstention saying they would only vote on a date for independence.

Turnout was only 53 per cent and in several Melanesian areas it was zero.

A spokesman for the Independence Front, Mr Yelwene, said the election demonstrated "a vote against the Melanesian population who support the French Government reforms as part of the decolonisation process".

Mr Yelwene said he was very happy with the abstention level and the fact that very few Melanesians had voted.

But Mr Lafleur, who is president of the Right-wing Republican Party, said the election was a victory and "a sanction against the political manipulation of the Socialist Government".

Mr Lafleur, having won more than 50 per cent of the vote, does not have to face a run-off election.

ZIA SUPPORTS SAUDI JOINT DEFENSE PLAN

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said in Karachi yesterday that although Pakistan belonged to the Gulf region, "we are not a formal member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)."

He told newsmen on arrival at Karachi airport that Pakistan fully supported the views of the Defence Minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz to map out a joint military strategy, as armed might was their only defence.

President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said in Karachi yesterday that the Afghanistan issue would figure prominently in his talks with the Chinese leaders during the forthcoming visit to China.

Talking to newsmen at Karachi Airport on his arrival here on a brief visit, the President recalled the friendly relations between the two countries and said that there

would be no formal agenda for talks between the leaders of the two countries.

A reporter asked if he envisaged some major progress on the solution of the Afghan issue during his talks with the Chinese leaders as the latter have of late shown some rigidity in their stance on the Afghan issue. The President said that both Pakistan and China had similar and identical views on Afghanistan. He did not agree with the reporter that China of late had adopted a rigid stance in her approach to the Afghan issue.

There has always been a consistency in China's attitude towards the solution of Afghanistan issue. Both Pakistan and China have similar and consistent views on the issue. Stressing the importance of the Afghanistan issue for the regional peace and security, the President said that this would figure prominently during his talks with the Chinese leaders.

Replying to a question about the

proposed visit of United Nations Secretary General's Special envoy on Afghanistan issue, to Pakistan, the President said the Special Envoy was expected to visit to Pakistan after the debate on the issue in the world body in the middle of November.

Replying to another question, the President said that he would lead Pakistan's delegation to the non-aligned movement's summit conference if the latter was held in New Delhi next March.

Replying to another question on PLO leader Yasser Arafat's call for an Islamic summit on Lebanon and also Iranian call for such a meeting, the President said that Pakistan had not received any formal intimation about such a meeting.

Earlier on arrival, the President was given a warm welcome among others by the Governor of Sind, Lt. Gen S.M. Abbasi and senior military and civil officials.—APP

CSO: 4200/46

ZIA DISCUSSES GLOBAL ISSUES, PAKISTAN'S FUTURE

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Sep 82 pp 5, 6

[Interview with Zia ul-Haq, president of Pakistan, by Theh Chongkhadikij, Bangkok POST editor-in-chief]

[Text]

PAKISTAN is facing similar problems, externally as well as internally, as Thailand. Both are threatened by invaders next door — Pakistan by Soviet forces in Afghanistan, Thailand by the Soviet-supported Vietnamese aggressors in Kampuchea. Both are confronted with security and refugee problems as a result.

Each has a military leader and each is seeking a stage-by-stage progress towards full democracy suitable to its own circumstances.

Therefore, when I was granted an exclusive interview, a rare one, by the President of Pakistan I seized the opportunity to discuss the global developments as they affect our countries, relations with the super powers and other subjects relevant to us and the South Asia and the Southeast Asian regions.

Before my meeting with the President I had it all wrong about General Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan. He had been portrayed as a military dictator - the Latin American type, a religious fanatic, a merciless martinet and an inflexible autocrat brooking no opposition whatever. This picture was painted not only by his political and ideological enemies but also by certain foreign correspondents.

I had requested an interview with him, to see him face to face, eye to eye, to feel out his real personality. Before I even got to

meet him, I shed the prejudices instilled into me by ardent supporters of the late prime minister Bhutto and the instant analyses by so-called experts of the Press — one by one.

Among the first people it was suggested I see was the irreverent, controversial Islamabad editor of the maverick *Muslim*, an English language daily which rejoices in taking the opposite line to the pro-government *Pakistan Times*.

"We are not as free as we would like, we get messages across to our readers between the lines, we now and then can become more open in our criticisms, depending on the subject and the timing, but we've never been harassed," he said.

The Lahore editor of the largest circulation Urdu, *Jung* (War or Struggle), which prides itself on its independent policy, said, "This military government is much more tolerant than the previous, civilian regime of Prime Minister Bhutto. Then not a single critical word could be said against the Prime Minister personally or his government. There was strict censorship and some newspapers were closed. Today, we don't feel tense and uncertain as we put out the daily newspaper."

Second, I knew about a Women's Department having been set up under the Cabinet secretariat in the Office of the

President. Having been to other Muslim countries, I was surprised to notice how free the Pakistani women are. They don't cover themselves up from head to toe, except for those of the older generations with traditional attitudes who do so out of personal choice and habit, not from official edict.

There has been no amputation of hands for thieves, though Islamic law is the rule. The law and whipping for punishment have been used as deterrents. From intellectuals, I learned that the President is striving for Islamic morality in a world he considers to have become immoral.

Third, Zia has already planted democracy at the "grass-roots" with locally elected councils which are responsible for local expenditures and development.

As one impression after another went by the board, I became more eager to look at the man myself. That day came on Saturday, the time 7.45 p.m.

At first I thought it was going to take place in that grand modernistic superstructure called the President's House in Islamabad but I was told that he had never gone to occupy it and only used it for banquets for state guests. I

was to meet him at the modest home of the Chief of General Staff (a position he has held, same as our Army Commander-in-Chief).

The President, ramrod-straight like a Sandhurst graduate but relaxed and smiling with his British-military-style moustache, grasped my hand in a firm handshake and invited me to sit next to him on the same sofa in his living room. Dressed in a neat, white Pakistani suit, buttoned to the neck with no collar, he sat down and gave me a brief informal address of welcome.

He spoke English without any accent, without the reserve associated with English gentlemen, without a stiff upper lip. His gracious humility and his sincerity came across, and I felt at ease. I realised he was going to be outgoing and frank. And he was.

THEH: Pakistan occupies a position of great strategic significance in the South Asian region. May I seek your views on the security concerns of this region particularly those of Pakistan in the context of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan? What in your view are the Soviet objectives in Afghanistan and in South Asia?

ZIA: Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and the continued presence of its forces in that country inevitably brought about a qualitative change in the security environment of the region. It has raised fundamental questions about the very survival of the post-war international order based on principles of non-use of force and non-interference in the internal affairs of states, and has brought new security concerns for states neighbouring Afghanistan. We are convinced that if one great power seeks geo-strategic advantage in this manner it may provoke reaction from the other great power, thus leading to a vicious circle of super-power rivalry that would inevitably imperil peace in the region.

As far as Soviet objectives are concerned, it has often been argued that these are 'forward strategic' in nature, particularly as the Soviet Union has built military infrastructure and bases in Afghanistan. However, we have to take note of the commitments of Soviet leaders to withdraw Soviet forces from Afghanistan. I can only express the hope that we will be able to arrive at a comprehensive political settlement based on these commitments.

THEH: We in Thailand perceive a clear link between the Soviet policy in Indochina and its policy in South Asia. Afghanistan and Kampuchea would appear to be the two sides of the same coin. Do you share this perception?

ZIA: The Soviet Union and Vietnam intervened militarily in Afghanistan and Kampuchea respectively with a view to determining the outcome of a purely internal conflict. Pakistan has consistently opposed all interference in the affairs of states and defended the inalienable right of each country to order its internal affairs in accordance with its own wishes. Pakistan adheres to its principled stand and hopes that foreign military intervention in both

these countries would cease, enabling their people to determine their own political destiny.

THEH: Afghanistan has been the traditional invasion route to India. The Aryans, the Persians, the Greeks and others marched into India through the Khyber Pass. Would the Soviets follow the same path or would they stop at the Pakistan border? This is of critical importance because of all the invaders of the sub-continent the Soviets would appear to be the most dangerous.

ZIA: We naturally hope that they would not only stop at the Pakistan border but withdraw their forces from Afghanistan. As a sovereign country Pakistan would do everything in its power to defend its territorial integrity if it ever came to such an eventuality. However, we remain hopeful that a comprehensive political settlement will be reached which would enable the Soviet Union to withdraw from Afghanistan in accordance with the commitments given at the highest level by Soviet leaders.

THEH: Thailand and Pakistan are facing a serious refugee problem although the dimension of your problem is much bigger than ours. What are the difficulties being faced by your Government in looking after the refugees? What proportion of the economic burden is being shouldered from outside? Do you feel that the approximately three million Afghan refugees would become part of your population or eventually would return to their homeland?

... ZIA: Provision of sustenance and succour to millions of uprooted Afghan people is a task of gigantic proportions which calls for enormous resources. Despite our own economic constraints we are doing our level best to help the Afghan refugees. Pakistan is contributing nearly half the amount which is being spent every day on their maintenance and upkeep. However, as the refugee exodus continues, Pakistan would require more assistance and help from friendly countries and international organisations to fulfil its humanitarian obligations.

The Afghan refugees have left their homes to escape untold miseries which have resulted due to continued foreign military intervention. These refugees have expressed their resolve to return to their country once foreign troops are withdrawn and conditions are created for their voluntary

return. Therefore, the question of their permanent stay in Pakistan does not arise.

THEH: May I now invite your attention to Pakistan's relations with its other big neighbour China? What is the climate of relationship between Pakistan and China? How does your government interpret China's long term objectives in this region and their implications for Pakistan? As you would be aware some countries in Southeast Asia harbour serious misgivings over China's long term designs in our area. Does Pakistan entertain any such fears of China and if not for what reasons?

ZIA: Pakistan enjoys excellent relations with the People's Republic of China. The climate of this relationship is characterised by complete trust and confidence which has facilitated mutually beneficial cooperation. China, like Pakistan is against all forms of hegemony. We are convinced that China's policy in South Asia is based on the principles of peaceful co-existence. We are happy that India's relations with China are also moving in a positive direction. China has supported that development of good neighbourly relations and closer cooperation among the countries of South Asia. We welcome China's contribution to the strengthening of peace and stability in this region.

THEH: In the wake of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan the Americans had offered an aid package which you had very...enlarged military sales and economic aid which was accepted. Do you consider this assistance to be sufficient to prevent Soviet domination of your country? In this connection let me also invite your attention to the Indo-Soviet Treaty which virtually amounts to a Defence Pact? How does Pakistan propose to balance out this military strategic Indo-Soviet relations in so far as its own security is considered?

ZIA: First let me clarify that we are not receiving military assistance from the US. We are only purchasing some military equipment from the United States against cash payment and partly on credit obtained at market related interest rates. These modest arms purchases would only help replace some of our obsolete equipment.

The acquisitions would improve our defensive capability to a degree,

but would not be adequate by themselves to guarantee our security. On the political plane we would continue efforts to improve our relations with India and to arrive at a political settlement of the Afghanistan problem which would ensure the withdrawal of Soviet forces from that country, so that Pakistan does not face the spectre of a two-front situation, or even a one-front war.

There is no doubt that the Indo-Soviet Treaty contains elements that give it a security dimension, i.e. make it a virtual alliance. In recent years India has, however, de-emphasized that aspect and we hope it will revert to a genuinely non-aligned policy. On our part we are determined to contribute towards the improvement of the security environment by maintaining our own defensive strength and by building tension-free relations with neighbours.

THEH: How do you view the current status of Indo-Pakistan relations particularly with the return of Mrs. Gandhi to power? May I solicit your views on her recent visit to Washington? Would her visit alter the existing correlation of forces in your region?

ZIA: In the light of our continuing dialogue with the Government of India, I view the current status of Indo-Pakistan relations in positive terms, and am hopeful about future prospects. Last year we proposed to India a Non-Aggression Pact. India has recognised that the conclusion of such a pact will contribute to the peace and security in the region. Containing universally accepted principles of non-use of force or threat of force and resolution of differences exclusively by peaceful means, it will help create a climate of trust and confidence which will facilitate cooperation in various fields. What matters at this stage is that both countries are engaged in a dialogue with a view to improving bilateral relations.

Mrs. Gandhi's recent visit to Washington has helped improve Indo-US relations. We favour friendly relations among all countries, and we expect other countries, too, to observe the principle of bilateralism and not seek to develop their bilateral relations at the expense of relations with Pakistan.

THEH: One has been bearing a lot about the development of a Pakistan nuclear programme.

The public in Southeast Asia would be most interested to hear the views of the President of Pakistan on this important question. Both India and China have nuclear capability. How does Pakistan feel about this?

ZIA: Pakistan has a modest programme of research and development in the field of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes which is essential to develop self-sufficiency in energy resources, since it is poor in fossil fuel resources. At the moment Pakistan has one of the lowest levels of energy consumption in the world. With the process of economic and social development the energy requirements of the country are increasing at a very fast rate. Pakistan has been most seriously affected by the increasing prices of oil. Our oil import bill has gone up from \$84 million in 1972 (8% of foreign exchange earnings) to \$1.5 billion in 1981, (60% of foreign exchange earnings) and could increase further. Such a large drain on our foreign exchange earnings is bound to retard our development plans and programmes.

If we are unable to develop alternate sources of energy particularly nuclear energy the problems of our economy could become unmanageable, and by 1985 or 1986, we might have to spend our entire export earnings on oil imports.

Fully committed as we are to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy we believe in the right of each state to have access to nuclear technology and to pursue scientific research and development in accordance with its own priorities. We have indicated on a number of occasions that we would be prepared to place our nuclear research and development programme under any safeguard arrangements provided they are applied universally and on a non-discriminatory basis.

We have no intention of acquiring or manufacturing nuclear weapons since we are committed to the concept of non-proliferation. We have supported measures for nuclear non-proliferation at the multilateral, regional and bilateral level. For example we have advocated the establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in South Asia, the de-nuclearisation of the Indian Ocean and provision of security assurances to non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. These initiatives enjoy a wide measure of support at the United Nations.

Bilaterally we had proposed a joint declaration by India and Pakistan renouncing the nuclear option, inspection of each other's nuclear installations and the signing of the Non-Proliferation Treaty by both countries. These proposals have not been agreed to by India so far. We hope, that in view of India's declared policy of not manufacturing or acquiring nuclear weapons that country will give serious consideration to these ideas.

As regard the nuclear capability of China you know that China made an unconditional pledge long ago not to be the first to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances. As such, non-nuclear weapons states have no cause to have any apprehensions about China's nuclear weapons capability.

THEH: Almost a decade ago Pakistan decided to sever its ties with the Commonwealth. Is there any likelihood of your rejoining the Commonwealth? If not, may I seek your views on the nature of the future relationship between Pakistan and the Commonwealth?

ZIA: We believe that the Commonwealth is a useful organisation at whose gatherings subjects of overall concern to its members and the world community at large are discussed, which lead to a better appreciation of one another's point of view. Personal rapport, which leaders of the Commonwealth develop on such occasions, is a positive factor in easing tension in the world.

As you are aware, Pakistan is a member of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-aligned Movement, one of whose objectives is to work for the maintenance of peace and stability in the world. In this way they serve to supplement the efforts of the United Nations. The Commonwealth would provide us with another forum to make our contribution, however small, in this regard. We would, therefore, be happy to resume our membership if invited to do so.

THEH: Your country has played a vital role in the Islamic world particularly in the latest conflict between Iran and Iraq. May I request your views on this conflict and Pakistan's position with regard to it? I shall also appreciate a word on Pakistan's position on the Middle East problem and what is needed to be done to ensure real and lasting peace in that troubled region?

ZIA: Pakistan has been deeply concerned over the continuing Iran-Iraq conflict not only because of the necessity for unity amongst the Muslim states and the developing countries but also because we have deep historical, cultural and religious ties

with both of these states.

It is for this reason that Pakistan has played an active role in the peace initiatives of the Islamic Conference, in the first instance in my capacity as its Chairman and later as a member of the Peace Committee. In view of our membership of the Islamic Peace Committee and friendly relations with Iran and Iraq, Pakistan has adopted a position of strict neutrality in the Iran-Iraq conflict. It has always been and will remain our endeavour within the Islamic Peace Committee to bring about a just and lasting settlement of this unfortunate conflict. In addition, Pakistan has taken several other initiatives to defuse this unfortunate conflict.

Pakistan's position on the Middle East problem has been consistent. We feel that a just and durable solution can be achieved only by taking into account and satisfying the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. A vital element of such a solution is the restitution of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinians, including the right to a state of their own on Palestinian soil.

The principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force also needs to be strictly observed in the Middle East region. Israel must be compelled to vacate all the Arab territories that she has under her occupation.

THEH: What are your view on the role and effectiveness of the non-aligned movement and Pakistan's contribution to the promotion of its objectives? Thailand and its ASEAN partners are trying to obtain friendly countries' support for allowing Prince Sihanouk, the President of the recently established Khmer coalition, to address the Non-Aligned Summit. Would Pakistan support such a move? In addition would your Government continue its policy of support for Democratic Kampuchea now when Sihanouk has assumed its leadership and the influence of the Khmer Rouge has been considerably reduced, at least politically.

ZIA: Pakistan is committed to the objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement which emphasise non-interference in the internal affairs and safeguarding the territorial integrity and sovereignty of states, economic emancipation of the developing world, decolonisation and peaceful settlement of disputes. Pakistan is totally committed to preserve the non-bloc character of the movement.

But for the positive role played by the Non-Aligned Movement, superpower rivalry would have been far more acute and the threat to world peace would have increased correspondingly.

We would support the idea of

Prince Sihanouk addressing the forthcoming Non-Aligned Summit, since we believe that Democratic Kampuchea should be allowed to reoccupy its rightful place in the meetings of the movement.

Support

Pakistan has consistently supported the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and would continue to extend its full support to the new coalition Government.

THEH: Let me now turn to Southeast Asia. What is your assessment of ASEAN? Do you consider it a success? Does Pakistan recognise it as a distinct economic and political entity? What are your country's relations with ASEAN as a whole and with its individual members?

ZIA: Members of ASEAN have maintained an impressive record of economic growth and achieved a significant degree of political cohesion in the last decade. The organisation can therefore be regarded as an unqualified success in both economic and political terms. Pakistan supports the aims and objectives of ASEAN as a regional organisation and maintains cordial relations with all the ASEAN countries. Our views on key issues, e.g. Afghanistan and Kampuchea, coincide. There is considerable scope for developing closer economic cooperation and increasing trade between Pakistan and the ASEAN countries. This aspect deserves more attention than it has received in the past.

THEH: You would be aware that since the past few years ASEAN has been holding a regular dialogue with the EEC, US, Japan, Australia, New Zealand etc. Would Pakistan respond favourably to an invitation by ASEAN to enter into a regular dialogue with it?

ZIA: So far ASEAN has established a regular "dialogue relationship" only with other regional organisations and with some aid donor countries. However, Pakistan would be happy to hold a dialogue with ASEAN if invited to do so.

THEH: The South Asian countries have been making efforts to establish a forum similar to ASEAN. What in your view are the prospects of an early setting up of a South Asian forum? What

are the hurdles being encountered and the prospects of their expeditious resolutions?

ZIA: Regional cooperation among the seven countries of South Asia is a relatively new idea. So far we have carried out studies for cooperation in eight agreed areas namely Agriculture, Rural Development, Telecommunication, Meteorology, Health, Transport, Postal Services, Science and Technology. Three meetings at the foreign secretaries' level have been held in this connection. At the last meeting held in Islamabad in August 1982 it was agreed that a meeting of foreign ministers may be held next year. We are still far from the stage of institutionalising cooperation on the ASEAN model. Objective conditions in the two regions differ. The main problems here are the existence of political disputes and the disparity in its sizes and the levels of development of South Asian states. A careful step-by-step approach is more likely to yield results in our region.

THEH: Now permit me to ask a few questions about the internal situation in Pakistan. Since assuming power in 1977 your government has achieved significant success in terms of political and economic stability. What do you envisage for the future? Would it be possible to maintain this stability over a period of time and what shape would the future political system of Pakistan take? I ask this question because we in ASEAN give a good deal of importance to the stability and security of Pakistan which like Thailand, faces severe security constraints.

ZIA: I am quite optimistic about the economic and political future of Pakistan. We have put the country on sound economic footings and given fresh and vigorous directions to its economic progress and development. During the past five years, our economy has recorded a growth rate of over 6% as compared to less than 4% in the earlier period of the decade. Similarly, there has been 9% increase in the industrial production and 4% in agriculture. Our achievements in the agricultural sector are indeed outstanding. We have reaped record harvests of wheat, rice, cotton and sugar-cane and have become the net exporter of food. There has also been substantial increase in investments. I am confident that the future holds great promise for the economic development of my country. We will continue making new breakthroughs on the economic front. As for the

future political dispensation of the country. I am committed to hold elections. It is not the aim of my government to prolong the martial law a day longer than necessary. We had to intervene to avert a civil war. We have been endeavouring all along during these past five years to develop democratic institutions. We are moving towards the ultimate objective of establishing a representative government step by step.

Institutions

We have held elections to local bodies after a lapse of 15 years. These grass-root institutions are now well established and are functioning quite effectively. The Federal Cabinet has been expanded to include more civilian ministers. Advisory councils have been set up in all the provinces to assist and advise the provincial governments in their functions. A similar council, Majlis-i-Shoora, consisting of members from all parts of the country and all walks of life, has been set up at the Federal level also. I sincerely hope that this process will continue and contribute positively towards the restoration of a representative government in the country, which is truly democratic and compatible with Islamic values. We plan to establish an Islamic system of government in Pakistan befitting the Islamic principles and in tune with the Islamic spirit. It will be our endeavour to present before the nation a framework of a true Islamic state by August 14, 1983.

THEH: Pakistan like Thailand earns its foreign exchange through the export of primary commodities. The international market price of these commodi-

ties has been on the decline. Would you recommend the establishment of an organisation of rice exporting countries on the pattern of OPEC to augment their bargaining power?

ZIA: You have asked an interesting question but it raises a number of issues.

Rice is not a homogeneous commodity. It is produced in various varieties. The price of each variety is determined by its own supply and demand. As an agricultural commodity, in certain cases, it is subject to the vagaries of the weather. The rice producers have limited control over its production. Consequently the quantity of rice available for export varies from year to year.

I might add that there are very few major rice importing countries. Rice importing countries have been known to become rice exporting countries in the recent past. I would, therefore, think that the question of the formation of an organisation of rice exporting countries deserves extremely careful handling. Instead of serving the interests of the rice exporting countries which I am sure you have in mind, any hasty move in that direction could have an adverse effect.

THEH: My last question, Mr President, pertains to Thai-Pakistan bilateral relations. In the 1960s relations between our two countries were very close. But over the years due to our regional pre-occupations we seem to have drifted somewhat apart. Thailand has become increasingly involved with ASEAN and Pakistan with the Islamic world. What do you think should be done to bring the two countries closer together in the political, military and economic fields?

ZIA: Relations between Pakistan and Thailand have always been cor-

dal. Our departure from SEATO and its eventual dissolution, and the separation of Pakistan's eastern wing have not diminished our interest in Thailand which we believe occupies a very vital position in an important region of the world. We fully appreciate the positive influence that Thailand has all along exerted in Southeast Asia.

The burden imposed on us by the influx of Afghan refugees has, among other things, helped us better understand the problems faced by your country. We admire the courage and sagacity of the Thai leadership and the people of Thailand who have successfully continued their march on the road to progress and prosperity in spite of the compulsions generated by a tense politico-strategic environment.

We see eye-to-eye on the question of Kampuchea. My government is grateful for the principled position adopted by the Thai Government on the Afghanistan issue. Our bilateral relations are progressing smoothly in all fields: visits are being exchanged at various levels, a number of Pakistani and Thai students are studying in each other's country, and efforts are being made to further expand trade and economic cooperation.

In view of the problem-free nature of relations between Pakistan and Thailand and the prevailing goodwill, I am confident that tremendous scope exists for further strengthening these relations. In this regard I feel that the pride of place should belong to the economic sphere. I would like our people to learn from the entrepreneurial skills of the Thai businessmen. I would also like to see greater collaboration in the field of joint ventures. The only constraints that we have to surmount are those brought about by geography, which I am sure can be overcome with the establishment of adequate shipping arrangements.

ZIA SAYS HE DECLINED SOVIET SECURITY OFFER

Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 pp 1, 12

[Text]

President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has told Alexander Thomson of BBC that the Soviet Union recently offered his country a security pact under which Russia would guarantee Pakistan's security.

President Zia is quoted by Thomson as telling the Russians, "so long as I am alive this will not happen."

President Zia, however, told Thomson that bilateral relations have been improving. Besides the big steel mill in Karachi, Russia is likely to participate in other projects.

He said the recent visit of the Secretary of Foreign Ministry, Mr Niaz Naik, to Moscow had been quite successful.

Ties with China

Describing Pakistan's ties with China as exemplary, President Zia-ul-Haq told BBC in an exclusive interview that during his forthcoming visit to China he would discuss with the Chinese leaders international issues, including the Middle East and the Iran-Iraq War, BBC reported last night.

The BBC broadcast excerpts of the interview in its Urdu, "Sair-e-been" programme.

The President said that progress had been made towards improvement in Pakistan-America ties, and if all went well, everything would be all right.

BBC correspondent asked President Zia that in view of improved relations between India and the United States after Indira Gandhi's US visit, was not he worried that

Pakistan would be affected. Maybe the United States thought that India should be given preference because of its being a major Power.

Gen Zia replied: "India is our neighbour and we are improving our relations with India. We are not competing with India. We do not envy India, and in my opinion we should not."

Answering a question whether the rumours were correct that a major initiative as regards ties with India was on the way, Gen Zia said that though he was ready to do anything for a major initiative and was doing much work in this regard, in his opinion, it would take some time to achieve a major success.

Answering a question about the possibility of comparing him with Mrs Gandhi on his US visit, Gen Zia replied: "It would be unfortunate. I go there in my own right, not as a democratically-elected representative of the country, but as a Muslim leader who is running the administration of his country in his own right, where this position of his is accepted by the people. They might not have voted for him. Maybe, they abuse him, but apparently at least and on the basis of the solidarity we have established during the last five years he was going to the United States in his own right."

Afghanistan

President Zia-ul-Haq revealed that his Government was considering a solution to the Kashmir problem and it was not advisable to disclose the scheme at this stage.

To a question, President Zia said that if an honest and firm approach

was made then all problems could be solved peacefully and added that he intended to do the same with the Kashmir problem.

He disagreed with the interviewer and termed it against his principles to accept the present line of control as the international frontiers between the two countries.

On Afghanistan, President Zia said it was a political problem and political solution was a must for it. "Pakistan cannot solve this problem militarily. A super-Power is involved in it and the other super-Power does not want direct confrontation with it. A dialogue has begun under the auspices of the UN, and when dialogue gets under way, the process of normalisation of relations also begins."

President Zia said: "A key demand of Pakistan is the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the Soviets told me that their troops would be withdrawn. I told them that I accept this, but it has to be seen when you people materialise this promise."

The President said: "The Soviets wanted us to stop raids of Afghan Mujahideen across the border. But this 1400-mile border goes along a very inaccessible area."

President Zia said when he asked the Russians why one lakh Soviet troops there could not do anything in this regard. President Zia said that it is possible for the Pakistan Army or an army three times bigger in size to seal this border. He told the Soviets that if they sealed the border he would lose argument and would give up.

President Zia said that in fact the Soviets do not have so much danger from those Afghans on Pakistan border who call themselves Mujahideen as from those fighters who are inside Afghanistan and

around Kabul and are operating there.

President Zia-ul-Haq disclosed that the Afghan Government had indicated that it might recognise the Durand Line as the border line between Pakistan and Afghanistan. But, President Zia said, he is not willing to pay the price Afghanistan demanded for it. He said that he would have Durand Line accepted by them through his own way and Inshallah, that day is not far. The Soviet Union and Afghanistan have no alternative but to accept it.—PPI

Sino-Pak ties

In an interview with Xinhua and Radio Beijing correspondents in Rawalpindi, President Zia said "Pakistan and China have the most friendly relations and these are relations which could be the envy of any country."

"China is the bigger partner. Pakistan is a smaller partner. China has been able to allow us to maintain a relationship on equal level of fraternity and freedom," he added.

Speaking highly of the principles of peaceful co-existence China has followed in the international relations, he said China had set an example for larger countries. "The People's Republic of China has so far never interfered in any country's internal affairs, and more so of their neighbours. We are proud to be neighbour of China and to have enjoyed this relationship."

The President expounded Pakistan's position on the Afghan issue. He said the Afghanistan issue "has to be settled politically. In this respect the United Nations resolution is a stepping stone towards, perhaps, an eventual

achievement of the successful conclusion of the Afghanistan problem." "But", he said, "I am not so optimistic. I think we find a good deal of hurdles."

Referring to the indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva, the President said: "I must emphasise here that by entering into the indirect negotiations with the Afghan political party we will not compromise on the four principles which we have followed all along. Those principles are: the foreign troops must withdraw from Afghanistan. Afghanistan's status as a non-aligned Islamic country must be restored, refugees must return with honour and dignity to their homes and hearth, and it should be left to the people of Afghanistan to select the type of the government they want."

On the Kampuchea problem the President said: "We are supporting the stand of non-interference in Kampuchea, exactly the same principle as we are fighting for in case of the Afghanistan issue. We believe that any outside interference is not in the interests of international peace."

On the situation in the Middle East, he said: "Unless the people of Palestine who are now homeless refugees are allowed to have a homeland of their own and unless the United Nations resolutions are implemented by the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied homeland, I do not see there can be any solution to the Middle East problem."

Referring to the Iran-Iraq crisis, the President said, both sides should find a peaceful solution to this problem. "We hope that not in the too distant future, a ceasefire and solution will be found."

IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION SEEN POSSIBLE

Karachi JANG in Urdu 5 Sep 82 p 3

[Article by Irshad Ahmad Haqqani: "Pakistani-Soviet Relations; Signs of Reconciliation"]

[Text] In the past, Pakistani-Soviet relations have not been extraordinarily unpleasant, but they have not been particularly close and friendly either. This has various causes, which are known to people in the know. However, 2 or 3 years ago, after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, a new element of tension in the relations between the two countries cropped up, bringing them to their lowest level. To counter the new situation, Pakistan deemed it proper to sign a military and economic aid agreement with America. This increased the tension somewhat further. Pakistan's official stand is that its agreement with America is a simple, straightforward business matter. A few weapons have been bought at market and business interest rates. No promise of any political bargain has been made. There is no aim to support American war tactics and interests, the United States has no bases on our land, and we will not do anything that is contrary to our Islamic or neutral position. Obviously, however, the Soviet Union and some other countries have not accepted our stand as true word for word. They declare that the \$3.2-billion agreement is a manifestation of close relations and cooperation between Pakistan and America.

Consequently, following Pakistan's agreement with America, the new tension created in relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union upon its invasion of Afghanistan further increased. During this period, many groups voiced their opinion by saying that the Soviet Union could take steps to express its anger at Pakistan and that there was the danger of a worsening of relations between the two countries. In Pakistan itself, some circles believed that some action by the Soviet Union was not impossible; rather, they expressed astonishment at the fact that the Soviets were thus far acting with restraint. For its part, the Pakistani Government took the stand that it was the one who should have a grievance, not the Soviet Union, since the latter's entry into Afghanistan created dangers for us and a neutral Muslim neighbor's impartiality was terminated and problems for our economy and internal security were created by the influx of more than 2.5 million refugees into Pakistan. Thus, complaints were launched from both sides and the situation got worse.

However, a few months ago, both the parties, by bringing flexibility to their stands, expressed their willingness to find a political solution to the

problem of Afghanistan. In the middle of last June, a round of talks was held through a representative of the UN secretary general. The Soviet Union did not participate directly, but the importance it commanded is no secret. On this basis, therefore, it would not be wrong to say that the Geneva talks were the manifestation of a lessening of tension in relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. Since it is noted that considerable progress has been made in these talks, it is not inappropriate to feel that Pakistani-Soviet relations are improving.

Against this background, we now have President Zia-ul-Haq's statement that there is no dispute between Pakistan and the Soviet Union, only some differences in principle regarding the Afghanistan problem. The significance of the words used by President Zia-ul-Haq in characterizing Pakistani-Soviet relations should not be overlooked. There was a time when the Soviet Union's advancement toward Pakistan was discussed. We used to complain about its threats, border violations and pressure. It was also said that if the Soviet Union attacked us, we would retaliate. Fortunately, however, the tension that was referred to did not become a reality and both countries have been successful in preventing the situation from getting out of control. It is hoped that what President Zia-ul-Haq has now said concerning Pakistani-Soviet relations will help clear the atmosphere further and lessen the existing tension. No country's foreign policy can remain rigid and inflexible, and it can change according to changes in circumstances.

The story of relations between India and America is germane. India had a particular stand about the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Furthermore, after the Pakistani-American agreement, a new tension was created in the relations between India and America. However, with India's interests and needs in view, Mrs Gandhi agreed to tour America. Not only did she go there, she expressed her desire for exceptionally friendly relations with America. A great deal of hard work was put in to make her tour a success. Through planning, an atmosphere was created in which Mrs Gandhi and President Reagan could hold their dialogue in a most friendly manner. Despite her close and historic relations with the Soviet Union, Mrs Gandhi said that no one friendship can come in the way of another friendship.

The amount of warmth produced as a result of Mrs Gandhi's tour in the relations between the two countries also depends on those steps that will be taken by the two countries in the coming weeks and months. It is true, however, that Mrs Gandhi has tried her level best to create a pleasant atmosphere. If India can try to draw closer to America, despite a certain record of Indo-American relations, why cannot Pakistan endeavor to improve its relations with the Soviet Union? The Soviet Union is a superpower. It is our close neighbor. We also have each other's cooperation in the field of industry and economy and there is no reason why we should not maintain with it as good relations as we have with the other superpower. Also with regard to the Islamic world, we have differences with American policies. We have disagreements with the Soviet Union on the question of Afghanistan. We can try to lessen this tension by continuing our efforts to solve this problem. It is quite possible that in this way we can be more successful in making it agree to create conditions for the return of the refugees. Our national interest should be the fundamental motive of Pakistan's

decisions. Obviously, its requisite is not that we lean toward one side or the other; rather it is to try to establish, as far as possible, agreeable relations with all countries, especially big powers. If we can offer a nonaggression pact to India despite the Kashmir dispute, then depiste the current Afghanistan situation, it is possible to establish relations with the Soviet Union in which the persistent danger of war and confrontation no longer exists.

9779
CSO: 4203/190

MRS BHUTTO TO APPEAR BEFORE MEDICAL BOARD

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 pp 1, 16

[Text] Begum Nusrat Bhutto yesterday received a letter from the Federal Interior Ministry asking her to appear before the Federal medical board to ascertain whether she needs treatment abroad.

She told newsmen at her residence last evening that she had sent telegrams to the Federal Ministries of Interior and Health informing them that she was prepared to be examined by the medical board.

She has, however told the Health Ministry that the medical board should sit in Karachi, and it should include Dr Abdul Hayee Saeed of Mideast Hospital (Karachi) and Prof A.H. Nagi of Allama Iqbal Medical College (Lahore).

Begum Bhutto said the authorities must take an early decision about her treatment abroad as any delay would be harmful to her health in view of the serious nature of the disease.

Relying to a question, she said Miss Benazir Bhutto would not accompany her abroad as she was in jail. Her other daughter, Sanam Bhutto would also remain here to take care of Miss Benazir Bhutto.

Asked whether any conditions have been communicated to her from the Government in respect of her treatment abroad and against her taking part in any political ac-

tivity, Begum Bhutto replied in the negative.

She, however, made it clear that she had no intention of taking part in any political activity abroad. In fact, I will go straight to the hospital for tests and treatment."

Answering a question, Begum Bhutto said the Interior Ministry's letter she received on Sunday stated that a foreign consultant could also be included in the Federal medical board, besides one of her nominees.

Begum Bhutto also confirmed she had a meeting with Mr Yusuf Haroon, a veteran politician, in Karachi the other day.

Earlier, before the start of the Press talk the correspondents of daily Jasarat and Nawa-i-Waqar were asked by the Secretary of Begum Bhutto to leave on the ground that they were not invited.—PPI

Our Staff Reporter adds: Explaining her preference for Sweden, Germany or Austria, Begum Bhutto said she would not like to go to the UK because of the large number of well-wishers who she would like to avoid during hospitalisation.

On the other hand, the USA was too far away, and in the state of her health and susceptibility to long hops by air she would like to be near home to be able to see her daughter Benazir.

At the outset, Begum Bhutto wondered why the Government should take as many as 50 days to offer check-up by the medical board. This could have been done in just 24 hours.

She apprehended further loss of time in the constitution of the medical board and expressed her worries in case there was a split in the opinion of board members.

Begum Bhutto said that before seeking permission to go abroad for treatment, she had explored every possibility of treatment within Pakistan.

Even proposals to invite foreign consultants were considered. They expressed the uselessness in view of the non-availability of necessary equipment in Pakistani hospitals.

In fact, only a few European hospitals possessed these facilities, she observed.

Begum Bhutto said in reply to a question that it was March last year when she was hospitalised following constant exhaustion and strain.

The tests were in progress when she was allowed to return home but was taken into custody within a few hours. The tests were resumed and completed later.

She told a questioner she had received messages from certain foreign missions enquiring about her health and promising early visas.

CSO: 4200/45

COUNTRY SEEN BECOMING VICTIM OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 82 p 9

[Article by A. T. Chaudhri]

[Text] THE new wave of terrorism sweeping Pakistan by fits and starts is a new phenomenon which cannot be effectively confronted by treating the fresh breed of terrorists as a bunch of young underground criminals with a lust for terrorising who can be brought to book through the promulgation of drastic laws, creation of local committees and or provision of arms to citizens and equipment to the law enforcing agencies.

These measures, which form part of the anti-terrorist drive just launched by the government, may help contain, to some extent, individual terrorists who plant explosives in public buildings or empty their revolvers and machine-guns against symbolic public figures. But the clandestine club of militants, who have contacts with some external forces and with certain local 'influentials' and segments of State apparatus, cannot be flushed out by traditional modes of operation. The new crisis, with a new focus, calls for a new response — administrative, political and even diplomatic.

So far, the response of the government's security advisers, or self-styled "terrorologists," to the snowballing terrorism has been based on a set of premises that are most faulty, to say the least. They would have the gullible folk believe that the crime graph is on the decline — according to official manuals — that 90 per cent of the current incidence of crime could be attributed to habitual offenders and not to the terrorists on the prowl, that the trigger-happy youth who are seized with the passion for violence are the thrill-seeking and publicity-hunting scions of elitist families which are not politically motivated and lastly, that terrorism, nihilism, or radical repudiation of Authority, are now common features even in the liberal democracies of the West and are not directly related to economic conditions or political systems.

Whether this is self-delusion or deliberate under-evaluation of a crisis situation by the security experts, is difficult to say. May be, their object in underplaying, or oversimplifying, the terrorist network is to restore public confidence in the government's ability to face the new challenge. But if the people are to be rallied behind the government to protect lives and property, enforce law and order and haul up those accused of terrorist activity the public must be taken into confidence on the ramifications of the terrorist movement.

In keeping with the dictum, "know thine enemy", the govern-

ment should expose rather than downgrade the "profile" of terrorists. That would be wholly in the public interest. For the people cannot understand the significance of terrorism unless all its faces and facets are laid bare. Nor can they lend a helping hand to combat the new menace unless it is put in context.

Of late, several scholarly case-studies of terrorist movements have been made, which have enlightened public opinion on the terrorist threat and response. Historically, the oppression of colonial regimes fuelled violence. Even in the 19th century Burke spoke of "thousands of those hell hounds called terrorists...", though terrorism in his age was more nationalist than nihilist. After World War I and the rise of Fascist States, in Europe, one witnessed the spectacle of State terror met by group terrorism. In the contemporary era, terrorist revolt has broken out in a number of Western liberal democracies for a variety of reasons which do not fall into a set pattern.

Main props

The chief props of terrorism in the West are: a) distant echoes of Vietnam, struggle for power in Latin America and Arab-Israeli conflict; b) rapid changes in "value systems" and improvisation of new ideologies; c) the revolt of the youth against the stranglehold of the superpowers on national governments; d) the rise of doctrinaire extremism both of the Left and the

Right; e) the radical urge to change the social order and make the bullet work where the ballot doesn't; f) and, of course, revolutionary sub-citivism, ethno-religious strife, racist conflict and separatist movements rooted in sub-nationalism.

These and other factors have been largely responsible for the rise of Red Brigades in Italy, Baader Meinhof in West Germany, IRA in Ulster, Basque in Spain, Black Panthers in the U.S. and other guerrilla terrorist apparitions in South America. These movements secure recruits from the overcrowded campuses, the sub-proletarian masses, politicised factory workers and the army of unemployed folk always willing to become "errant comrades."

Seen in this context, terrorism in Pakistan is still in an embryonic stage. It does not have any deeper firm social-political roots. But what makes it menacing is its sponsorship by some external forces, who have evidently embarked on a proxy war to destabilise the present regime, which has been operating in a political vacuum.

Thus, the "Reader's Digest" put it rather bluntly the other day: "Moscow seeks to destabilise his (Zia's) regime by open pressure and subversion..." The journal also cited reports that a \$700,000

fund has been created for carrying on terrorist activities. The veracity of such reports is difficult to check, but if the new technology of violence, the use of sophisticated arms by desperadoes and the character of neo-terrorists are taken into account, one would be forced to conclude that Pakistan is fast becoming a victim of international terrorism which is not so easy to combat without the support of sympathetic states.

It is certainly difficult to combat by putting excessive reliance on new Martial Law regulations or raising the morale and improving the outfit of the Police, under a casualty-preventing programme. MLR No. 53 — which prescribes the death penalty for the terrorists who commit offences against the State and individuals, against life and property and disturb public tranquillity or indulge in criminal conspiracies — has lately been subjected to sharp criticism by some leaders of defunct parties and independent organs of public opinion.

It is contended and rightly, too, that there is already a plethora of Martial Law order and regulations, besides the Penal Code and Islamic hadood. If these cannot take care of terrorist acts, nor can the severest anti-terrorist legislation. Again, the military courts are now authorised to presume, on the basis of

police investigation alone, that the accused has committed the offence charged with, unless the contrary is proved by him. This regulation is without any parallel in terror-stricken States. (Not long ago the Federal authority in West Germany was charged with over-reaction when it merely restricted contact between terrorist suspects and their lawyers.)

Indeed, there are enormous pressures on the Government, judiciary, police and the media in measuring up to the threat of terrorism, but no anti-terrorist drive can succeed unless it enjoys ample public consensus. Even if a "no-concession" policy or hard-line strategy is justifiably pursued to combat terrorism, public cooperation must be enlisted. And, this cannot be done as long as there is a deadlock between the Government and the major political organisations.

Terrorism, particularly international terrorism under external control, is not an ordinary phenomenon. If it persists for some time, it neutralises large groups and forces and ultimately strikes at "the heart of the State." To confront it effectively, the political process must be revived and a national response made to a national challenge.

CSO: 4200/44

MOTION ON TERRORISM ADMITTED IN ADVISORY COUNCIL

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct 10: Majlis-i-Shoora today admitted for discussion an adjournment motion on the terrorist and subversive activities of Al-Zulfiqar organisation in the country.

The motion will be discussed on the next private member's day (Tuesday) and the Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Mahmoud A. Haroon, did not oppose on technical grounds the admissibility of the motion which was moved by Malik Mohammad Shafi of Karachi.

In his motion Malik Shafi wanted to discuss the bomb blast incident at the Lahore airport which caused damage to public property. The mover of the motion said that since the Al-Zulfiqar organisation had accepted the responsibility the matter may be discussed in detail.

With mutual consultation the Chairman of the Shoora Khawaja Mohammad Saifdar, decided that the discussion should take place on the next private members day. He

informed the House that the present session will conclude on Oct 17.

The Chairman, Khawaja Mohammad Saifdar ruled out of order two other adjournment motions tabled by Malik Mohammad Shafi. One of the resolutions sought to discuss the retrenchment of 500 employees of the PIA, which he said, was done contrary to the assurance given by the Government that no more retrenchment would take place.

The Chairman read before the House a statement of the Defence Minister which denied the factual position, and later ruled the motion out of order.

Another motion also standing in the name of Malik Shafi was also ruled out by the Chair that the news about the 20 per cent retrenchment in the Pakistan Railways was not correct and contradicted by the Minister earlier.—PPI

CSO: 4200/45

HEATED DISCUSSION ON TERRORISM REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Oct 82 p 12

[Article by Anis Mirza]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 12: The arguments were disparate but the demand was tinged by a tone of unanimity. When Interior Minister Mahmoud Haroon moved a motion in the Majlis "on the situation arising as a result of subversive and terrorist activities" the deluge of speakers in the Shoora presented a broad consensus of opinion: the best solution to terrorism was a return to democracy and the holding of elections.

In an extempore 40-minute discourse, Mr. Mahmoud Haroon spelt out the scope and substance of terrorist activity in the country and the inadequacy of resources at the disposal of the Zia regime. The crux of his analysis was that terrorists and subversionists both within and outside Pakistan were hell bent on demolishing the Islamic-oriented ideology of the country.

A loud applause echoed past the Federal Council aisles, when the Federal Minister for the Interior said: "We will have to wage a war and a Jihad and be ready to make sacrifices." Mr. Haroon argued that in most developed countries, terrorism was an internal phenomenon. But in Pakistan, terrorism was not directed towards the regime but the ideology of Pakistan from external shores and bases.

Animated speeches

The response to Mahmoud Haroon motion was a cascade of animated articulate speeches from several members from Karachi, on the failure of the law enforcing agencies to curb dacoities, violence, robberies and organised crime. Labour leader Malik Mohammed Shaffi initiating the response pointed to the failure of 53 thanas of Karachi and the circumstances of the savage murder of Zahurul Hassan Bhopali. He said Mr. Haroon had concentrated on improving the anti-terrorist machinery when in reality the challenge could only be met by the strength and participation of the people.

Two women members Sabiha Shaked from Faisalabad and Mahmooda Sultana of Karachi stood apart in oration and abandon. An economics major and a labour leader, young Sabiha who was the General Secretary of the Muslim League's Women's branch, said the Press is saturated with stories of organised crime. She charged that police was harassing women and families for crimes committed by fathers and husbands.

Mahmooda Sultana wanted to know the hidden hand behind the

MRD meetings and the relative ease with which firearms were being circulated among Karachi students. She said men in uniform including an army Major had been implicated in some cases. Speaking with ease in Urdu Mahmooda said in the absence of a democratic set-up and electoral process, the deteriorating law and order situation was a natural phenomenon. Raising her voice Mahmooda charged aloud: "Our custodians have become the culprits" (Hamarey rabbar hamarey rahzan ho gayey hain).

Mr. Mohammed Idrees Taj said the Shoora had become a "kohlu ka bail" (oxen tied to the wheel). He said democracy and elections were the only answer.

Laughter broke out in the Shoora hall when M. Hamza rising on a point of order during Question Hour wanted to know why persons who had ceased to be effective at home were dispensed off as Ambassadors abroad.

A lull swept over the hall when Karachi's Hafiz Mohammed Taqi wanted to move an adjournment motion on NDP's Haji Mohammed Belor's reported statement that "if the Russians came we would welcome them." The Minister concerned said the Government of Sind had taken note of the statement and was going into the legal aspects, of the matter.

CABINET TO CONSIDER NATIONAL LANGUAGE AUTHORITY RECOMMENDATIONS ON URDU

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 p 6

[Article by Ghulam Ishaq]

[Excerpt] ISLAMABAD, Oct 10: The Finance Minister, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, told Majlis-i-Shoora here today that the Federal Cabinet, in its next meeting, would consider recommendations of the National Language Authority about adopting Urdu as the official language.

Replying to a question from Maulana Kamaluddin Kamal Salarpuri during the Question Hour, the Minister said that the issue had come up before the Cabinet in its 1st meeting, but in view of the absence of the provincial Governors and shortage of time, the President decided that the matter be considered in the next meeting of the Cabinet.

The Minister told the House that the National Language Authority was engaged in study and research to recommend ways and means of adopting Urdu as the national language in all spheres of activity. So far, the Authority had submitted a plan for adoption of Urdu as the official language in Pakistan and its introduction in Government offices and courts according to a phased programme of action

spread over three years. The Authority had also submitted a set of recommendations for greater use of Urdu in the competitive examinations conducted by the Federal and Provincial Service Commissions, he said.

President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq had directed the Cabinet Division to examine the reports of all those commissions set up so far since the independence of Pakistan as to whether these reports could be published in the public interest.

This was stated by Mr Ishaq while answering a supplementary question. He told the House that some reports of the commissions could not be published considering them unnecessary and inappropriate, in the public interest. He, however, said the present Government was not responsible for the publication of reports of those commissions which were set up by the previous Government.

He told the questioner, Mr Zain Noorani, that the total number of commissions appointed by the Government since 1947 was 52. Of these, 15 commissions' reports were published and made public.

CSO: 4200/45

EARLY ADOPTION OF URDU URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Oct 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Language of Administration"]

[Text]

ISSUES related to languages have a way of becoming emotive. But the adoption of Urdu as the official language in Pakistan should meet with general approval. Its legitimacy as the national language is not in doubt. In fact, it is the delay in introducing Urdu in the conduct of official business that has often disappointed the people. The next meeting of the Federal Cabinet will decide whether the recommendations of the National Language Authority about the adoption of Urdu as the official language should be accepted. Giving this information to the Majlis-i-Shoora, the Federal Finance Minister said that the issue was on the Cabinet's agenda in its last meeting but because of the absence of Provincial Governors, the President deferred it to the next meeting. We hope that the final decision in this matter will not be delayed for too long. The National Language Authority's plan to introduce Urdu in Government offices and courts prescribes a phased change-over in three years. This seems a reasonable time-frame and will make it possible to induct the language without creating any serious dislocation in the conduct of official business.

Whatever be the qualities and strengths of English as a modern language, the plain fact is that it is not the language of our people. Hardly one-tenth of one per cent of our people can manage to use English with some proficiency. Yet the reasons why the colonial bondage has retained its sway thirty-five years after the day of freedom are not difficult to identify. English symbolises the citadel that the bureaucracy has built to isolate itself from the people. Proficiency in English, the privilege of a very tiny minority, has remained the sure ladder to advancement. This elitist dispensation has had other consequences but English has served as an all-purpose instrument for the preservation and advancement of privileges. It is pathetic how almost the total energy of our average students who do not come from a particular background is devoted to learning this language. There has been no accounting of how much indigenous talent has been sacrificed at the altar of our obsession with English. When we say this we are not unmindful of the very great importance English enjoys as the language of international commerce and diplomacy and as one of the richest

storehouses of literature and learning. The retention of English as a language for compulsory teaching in the school system is an adequate acknowledgement of this position and a fitting response to our need to learn it. Further, there is a small minority which has to be engaged in international dealing or in academic pursuits, and this class of people must aim at achieving high proficiency in the use of English. For the rest of the purposes, including the conduct of governmental business, we should rely increasingly on our own languages.

There is little doubt that Urdu can prove a highly efficient medium for conducting the work of the Federal Government and attached offices and agencies, with the provinces being left free to make their own decisions. But we should like to add a vital qualification. Pakistan was born as a federal country and notwithstanding the continuing onslaughts of unitarism, remains one, at least in theory. Now federalism, if it is genuine, must also apply to the domain of language and culture. Accepting this means accepting unity in diversity. A sound language policy at the federal level should, therefore, stipulate the use of Urdu together with the regional languages that are used as media of journalism and literary expression. Some of the very obvious cases where it is highly advisable to use the regional languages alongside Urdu are the official gazette and publicity materials meant for mass consumption, especially in the rural areas. Further, the Federal Govern-

ment must reply to a communication or petition in the Pakistani language in which it was written. Fortunately, our regional languages have a strong kinship with the national language and they can live happily together — on a basis of mutual complementarity. Yugoslavia presents a living example of how languages of different regions can form an integrated, multi-channel system of communication between the people and the government, on the one hand, and between the different constituents of the nation, on the other.

In most pluralist societies, local languages and cultures are officially protected. This will also present some problems in using Urdu in competitive examinations for Federal and Provincial recruitment. But these problems should not be difficult to resolve, given a spirit of realism and understanding on the part of the decision-makers and the literary elites of our society. A language should not be allowed to become a source of discrimination or discouragement. A scientific approach will protect us from any chauvinistic exploitation of the linguistic differences. English, in any case, is not an integral part of our cultural and literary environment. We can shed this excess baggage to be able to advance more quickly towards a genuine flowering of our native genius. Among the basic conditions for this devoutly wished for consummation are universal literacy, an upsurge in the literary cultivation of the Pakistani languages and the removal of the present linguistic barrier between the rulers and the people.

PROSPECTS FOR JOINT CANADIAN-PAKISTANI VENTURES TERMED GOOD

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] The leader of the visiting 20-member high-powered delegation from Canada, Mr Geatan Lavalee, has indicated the possibility of involvement of Canadian businessmen in implementation of downstream projects of the Pakistan Steels.

On his arrival early yesterday morning at Karachi Airport to begin nine days' visit to Pakistan, Mr Lavalee told the representative of Radio Pakistan that 19 joint-venture projects were being considered.

He also indicated bright prospects of Canadian entrepreneurs' involvement in undertaking industrial projects in the upcoming Export Processing Zone near Karachi.

Mr Lavalee, who is also the President of the Canada-Pakistan Trade and Economic Council, said that there was vast scope for joint ven-

ture and technical cooperation between Pakistan and Canada.

He said a Canadian firm had formed a joint venture with Nespak to work outside Pakistan. They would work together on development schemes in Iraq and Mali and are also hopeful to obtaining work in road construction in the Comoros Island.

The Canadian-Pakistan joint-venture project, he said, had also been selected by the Islamic Development Bank for possible financial assistance.

Mr Lavalee also spoke about the fields in which the entrepreneurs of the two countries are already collaborating; they include electric goods, transformers and compressors.

A cattle-rearing and dairy farming, involving investment of 40 million dollars to be set up in Sind under the joint-venture collaboration

between the two countries, is also under consideration.

Other areas in which the entrepreneurs of the two countries will collaborate are mining, hydrothermal generation, energy and agriculture.

Mr Lavalee also appreciated the incentives and facilities being provided by the Pakistan Government to encourage foreign investment.

He hoped that after the visit of President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq to Canada in the near future the relationship between the two countries would still grow further.

During its stay in Pakistan at Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad the delegation will have a series of meetings with representatives of the business community, Federal Ministers and high officials on matters of strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries.—PPI

CSO: 4200/46

JOINT VENTURES WITH CANADA DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Oct 82 p 12

[Text]

Scores of specific fields were identified for undertaking joint ventures between Pakistani and Canadian entrepreneurs during the meeting of the visiting 20-member high powered Canadian delegation with the Chairman and other officials of the Export Promotion Bureau.

Bureau sources told newsmen that the projects identified are: agro-based, engineering industries, food processing plants, establishment of trade centres in various cities in Canada, collaboration in marketing, services industries like consultancy and also collaboration in third countries operation.

The Canadian Team, the sources added, shown interest in these projects, both in public and private sectors.

The Bureau gave proposals for the establishment of trade centres in Canada on the pattern of such a centre set up in Jeddah and the Canadian team assured of examining it. The Bureau is also considering to set up a centre in Montreal.

The Bureau, the sources added, sought technical assistance and collaboration in the developing of fruit processing industries.

The Chairman of the Bureau, Mr Hamid D. Habib, hosted a lunch in honour of the delegation.

Split in groups, the delegation will visit today the Export Processing Zone and Karachi Electric Supply Corporation.

The leader of the Canadian delegation, Mr Gaetan Lavallee, said on Monday night that Canada was willing to enter into joint ventures with Pakistani entrepreneurs in projects like dairy farming, mining, industries, power etc.

Speaking at a dinner-meeting with the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry Mr Lavallee, who is also the President of Canada-Pakistan Council said that entry of private sector in Pakistan into joint ventures and collaboration would also be welcomed.

He, however, pointed out that while the Canadian investors had offered proposals for joint ven-

tures and collaboration but received no favourable response from any Pakistani entrepreneur.

Earlier presenting the welcome address, Mr Yusuf Zia, President FPCCI, stressed the need for increasing Canadian imports from Pakistan so that the existing bilateral trade relations acquired greater strength and viability.

The Canadian delegation called on the Sind Governor, Lt-Gen. S.M. Abbasi today. Welcoming the delegation, the Governor identified areas of investment — both individual or joint ventures — with local entrepreneurs in Sind.

He identified the areas of investment as cattle farming and inland and marine fisheries on scientific basis, agro-based industries, poultry farming, agriculture and power generation through solar energy units.

The Governor and Mr Lavallee exchanged gifts on the occasion.

CSO: 4200/71

REPORT ON ENERGY NEEDS SUBMITTED

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 11: The Chairman of the International Energy Development Consultants, Mr Maurice F. Strong, and his team of experts, entrusted with the preparation of an in-depth study on the country's overall energy profile, presented their final preliminary report to a high-level meeting here.

It spotlights the quantum of the existing energy resources and the future needs, and also simultaneously projects gaps in demand and supply over different time intervals.

They also dished out recommendations and an action plan relating to the measures for making optimum use of the existing energy resources and the formulation of a comprehensive energy development strategy for different time spans, necessitated by the widening gap between available energy resources and their growing demand.

Dr Mahboobul Haq, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, who presided over the meeting, appreciated the good work done by the IEDC, and observed that while there was a consensus on the general contours of the strategy suggested by the IEDC, there was still room for further refinement in the energy gap analysis prepared by it to make the strategy more realistic.

He said it was very important to overcome the energy gap to prevent a major jolt to the process of development because most of the developing countries had fallen victim to the energy crisis, with the result that their development came to a virtual halt. In this context, he pointed out, the proposed study on energy sector was very important for development planning, particularly the forthcoming Sixth Five-year Plan.

The IEDC was appointed by Planning Commission as principal energy adviser [as published] to assist in drawing up a long-term plan with particular emphasis on the Sixth Plan. The scope of their assignment included: review of energy balance sheet for the past years; forecasting future energy requirements for five, 10 and 20 years; formulation of comprehensive physical and financial plans for five and 20 years; to advise on energy

pricing policy; and to advise and assist on specific problems within normal resources of IEDC.

The final recommendations of IEDC in this regard are expected to be preferred to the Planning Commission well before the initiation of the Sixth Plan.--APP

CSO: 4200/46

REALISTIC APPROACH TO TAXATION URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 7

(Editorial)

[Text] As income-tax payers rushed to meet the deadline for filing their returns the other day, many, especially those in the salaried class, must have groaned going through the exercise. This would appear strange for Pakistan is generally regarded to be an under-taxed country, with its tax-GDP ratio comparing unfavourably with many other countries, even those in the Third World. But what makes the tax system in Pakistan open to question is not so much the incidence as the narrow base and inequitable incidence of taxes. If a small section of the population is not to carry much of the tax burden of the entire nation, it is important that the tax net be sufficiently widened and the burden be redistributed in such a way that it falls equitably on all sectors of the economy. That agriculture, the major economic sector in Pakistan, should remain exempt from income tax is beyond logic and comprehension. It is time this anomaly was corrected and not only agriculture but all agro-industries such as fisheries, poultry, livestock, dairy farming are taxed according to the resources they generate. Of course, the Government will be required to resist the pressure

of the powerful agricultural lobby which has for over three decades worked hard to protect the interests of big landlords. It is also essential that the Government checks the widespread evasion of taxes and duties which deprives the exchequer of much needed revenue. The most prominent in this group are the small traders and shopkeepers whose earnings are sizable but who do not pay any taxes. A system needs to be devised to bring them into the tax net.

If the tax base is broadened, the Government will be collecting more revenues than it does today. That should make it possible to provide adequate relief to the salaried group. The impact of any relief to this class will be widely felt since quite a large number of assessees — 23 per cent of them — are from the salaried class. Any reduction in their income tax liabilities would provide considerable relief to individuals with fixed incomes, but should not hurt the exchequer since even now the salaried people as a group contribute less than 8 per cent of the income tax revenue. To begin with, the exemption limit which has been set at Rs. 12,000

should be raised to Rs. 18,000. The income tax payable by those with an income of less than Rs. 21,000 is not substantial, working out to the maximum of Rs. 10 every month. But this is all the more reason why they should be exempt from tax. This would amount not so much to providing them some financial relief as to saving them the hassle which goes into the filling of complicated forms and juggling with complex figures. By the same token, the limit for filing a wealth statement should be raised from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 100,000. After all, the logic of the argument that inflation has devalued the worth of money was accepted when the exemption limit for the levying wealth tax was raised to Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 500,000 for movable and immovable property, respectively. Further, the high slabs for the salaried class are at present too high, and equity demands that they be lowered. Similarly, the investment relief provided to those in the lower taxable bracket works out to such a nominal amount that it hardly serves as an incentive to saving and investment. It is time a more realistic formula was devised for computing investment relief.

SHOORA COMMENTARY: INCREASE IN WHEAT PRICES, 'AMBITIOUS' HEALTH PLAN

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 p 7

[Article by M. A. Mansuri]

[Excerpt] Wheat price

It is rather strange that whenever IMF sends a mission to Pakistan there is a sharp rise in the rates of several essential commodities and public utilities and services. Last week, following a meeting of the Federal Cabinet, the procurement price of wheat for the next crop was raised from Rs.145 to Rs.160 per 100 kg. In the retail market, an 18 kg bag of good quality wheat was already selling at Rs.40 (Rs.222.22 per hundred kg).

Simultaneously, it was reported by a section of the Press that the Federal Government had decided to raise the charges of new gas connections by 100 per cent, for both domestic and commercial consumers. Another section of the Press reporting a Federal Government decision to raise the prices of fertiliser by at least 15 per cent, said that instructions had already been sent to all General Managers of fertiliser factories to stop forthwith the sale of stocks in godowns, sale depots or government distribution agencies till further orders. Similar instructions were reported to have been sent to all the District Magistrates.

Only a few days earlier, the Rawalpindi Municipal Corporation had decided to raise the rates of "Chungi" (local octroi) by 30 per cent. The matter is now being discussed by the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce's municipal affairs committee which has appealed to local traders and industrialists to refrain from resorting to public agi-

tation until its negotiations with old contacts, Dr Haq hopes to find precious help for the plan from some international agencies.

There was another important event last week though it looked somewhat like an exercise in abstract art — beautiful but unclear. The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Dr Mahbubul Haq, who has acquired the reputation of being an expert on long-term planning without worrying much about resources, got the approval of the Federal Cabinet for his charming plan to improve the quality of medical services in the country, upgrade the status of doctors and provide house jobs for all of them. The plan envisages a national rural health service, 1,500 additional posts for doctors and providing for double shifts in hospitals to cater for the growing medical needs. It promises to establish "a systematic link between the village community and the superstructure of the modern health system", create a network of basic health units responsible for midwifery, child care, family planning, school health service and all medical care within their respective areas.

In Islamabad, a city which is full of experts on almost every subject, many of us were convinced that Dr Haq could have improved the plan even further if he was given a little more time. To find resources for the plan, obviously, is not his job. In international organisations where he was working for the past many years, there was no shortage of funds. So, perhaps, he has not learnt to be discouraged by a constraint of this kind. Maybe, with his

But, the doctors' community, whose agitation over the past fourteen months, had led to the formation of the Dr Mahbubul Haq Committee, seems to have received the plan with some reservations and disappointment, asserting that the fundamental demands of the doctors have not even been touched in the new health package. The representatives of the Pakistan doctors' organisation and of the Pakistan Medical Association were reported to be of the view that the Government was deviating from the basic demands which had been at issue between the Government and the doctors and for which the medicos had gone on frequent strikes.

Anyway, after presenting the plan before the Cabinet, Dr Mahbubul Haq was busy presiding over a high-powered review meeting on the national energy plan. The four-day meeting was attended by the Secretaries of key ministries, heads of energy organisations, gas companies, and the International Energy Development Corporation's team of experts. The IEDC has been entrusted with the preparation of an in-depth study on the country's overall energy profile which will form the basis of a national energy plan for the next 20 years with particular emphasis on programmes in the next Five-Year Plan. Mr Maurice Strong, Chairman of IEDC, had specially flown to Islamabad to participate in the discussions.

SHOORA: LIQUOR IN EMBASSIES, KABUL VISIT

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Oct 82 p 9

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct 12: The Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, informed Majlis-i-Shoora this morning that all personnel of Pakistan Embassies had been instructed to show circumspection in serving liquor on social occasions.

He was replying to a question by Ch. Shujaat Hussain as the Minister incharge for Foreign Affairs in the absence abroad of Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

He said that the policy of prohibition on serving liquor was introduced in 1977 and the Government had imposed a ban on the serving of liquor at official functions by Pakistan missions. He said that all personnel of Pakistan Embassies had been instructed to honour the country's law through personal abstention from liquor. He denied that liquor has still being served to the visitors/guests at the Pakistan Embassies, and said no Government money was being spent on liquor at official functions.

Mr. Pirzada also informed the Majlis that 61 official delegations were sent abroad by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the last three years.

Replying to a question by Zain Noorani, the Minister gave details about the composition of each delegation province-wise.

Answering a supplementary question about the inclusion of members of the Majlis in these delegations, the Minister said the Government has already giving them due representation. He said there were eight members of Majlis

in the delegation which was recently sent to the United Nations.

Khwaja Mohammad Saifdar, Chairman of the Majlis, intervened at this stage and requested the Government on behalf of the members to make it sure that members of Majlis-i-Shoora were included in the official delegations sent abroad.

WALI'S VISIT TO KABUL

Replying to another question, Mr. Pirzada said that Khan Abdul Wali Khan, a leader of the defunct NAP, accompanied by his wife, visited Afghanistan earlier this year from March 24 to April 18, purportedly to see his ailing father who was receiving medical treatment in Kabul. He was received by Babrak Karmal during his stay in Kabul, the Minister said. "We have reasons to believe that Mr Wali Khan, during his stay in Afghanistan, met Aymal Khattak", he said.

Asked whether it was a fact that Mr Wali Khan was accompanied by a so-called Minister of Afghanistan up to the border of Pakistan and, according to a news item, he allegedly said to the latter "In the near future, we shall meet you in your country". The Minister stated that Mr and Mrs Wali Khan were seen off on the Afghan side of Pak-Afghan Border by, among others, the Kabul regime's Minister of Tribes and Nationalities, Suleman Laiq. As far as the alleged statement of Mr Wali Khan, the Minister said: "I cannot vouch for this statement made by Khan Abdul Wali Khan."

LAWYERS' ARRESTS IN LAHORE CRITICIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 p 16

[Text]

LAHORE, Oct 10: A number of lawyers and lawyers' associations have criticised the arrest of lawyers in Lahore and demanded their release.

A joint session of the Lahore High Court Bar Association and the District Bar Association held jointly under the chairmanship of Mr Abdus Haseen Minto and Mr A.R. Arshad, has criticised the arrest and registration of cases against five lawyers for participating in the Lawyers Convention.

The meeting resolved that all the detained lawyers be released and cases against them withdrawn.

The meeting further resolved to convene a joint session of the two Bars on Oct 16 in the High Court Bar premises to evolve future course of action.

In Rawalpindi, the executive Committee of the High Court Bar Association of Rawalpindi, passed a resolution at its meeting held here today expressing the opinion that the Lawyers Convention was

held for restoration of democracy, restoration of 1973 Constitution and for early elections in the country. These demands were in the supreme interest of the country, the resolution added.

Meanwhile, Mr Amanullah Khan Mexi, Chairman Executive Committee of the Punjab Bar Council, and Chaudhry Farooq Ahmed, Vice-Chairman of the Punjab Bar Council, have said that there would be no benefit in repealing the Bar Council Act and handing over the power of registration of lawyers to the high courts.

While addressing a Press conference today they said the Bar councils have rendered valuable services to the legal community. They denied that 350 cases of misconduct against the lawyers were pending decision in the Bar councils. Only 64 cases were pending, they said. They alleged that under the previous system controlled by High Court only two cases had been decided during the period between 1948 and 1965.—PPI

CSO: 4200/45

TRANSPORT BODY FOR SIND SET UP

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 p 16

[Text]

The Government of Sind has appointed a nine-member transport committee with a view to examine multi-dimensional transport problems and improve the functioning of the transport companies in the public and private sectors in the province, says an official handout.

The Provincial Minister for Transport will be the chairman of the committee, while the members include Provincial Minister for Finance, Secretary Finance, Chief of Transport Section Planning and Development Department Sind, Managing Director KTC, Chairman SRTC, Joint Secretary (Transport) Ministry of Communications, Government of Pakistan, Chief Transport Section, Planning Division, Government of Pakistan and Secretary Transport who will also act as Secretary of the committee.

The committee will determine the overall demand for public transport on the urban as well as inter-city routes and principles of

distribution of busses between the public and private sectors.

It will also make recommendations for making available development funds, credit and fiscal incentives for public and private sectors to enable them to achieve their target in terms of augmentation of fleet strength in relation to projected demand.

Besides, the committee will suggest measures for improving the operational and financial performance of KTC and SRTC, particularly with regard to economy in maintenance, expenditure, P.O.L., overheads and prevention of leakage of revenues and pilferage of spare parts.

In view of enhancement of dearness allowance for the employees and increase in the prices of P.O.L., the committee will recommend revision of existing fare structure and will formulate a rational tariff policy in this regard.

CSO: 4200/45

LAND HOLDING PATTERN ANALYZED; REFORMS DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by Mahmood Hasan Khan]

[Text] In most Third World countries, living standards can be improved only if the agricultural sector develops rapidly. The major obstacles to rapid transformation of agriculture are to be found in the archaic and asymmetrical relations of people to land. The dichotomies between the landlord and his tenant and between the large and small owners often run counter to the goals of efficiency and equity.

Agrarian structures have an important bearing on agricultural development, certainly in countries like Pakistan where the asymmetry on land is evidently strong and even supported by public policy.

Agricultural growth in Pakistan has not only been uneven in point of time, reflecting the age-old dominance of Nature on man, but it has also tended to be uneven by regions, reflecting mostly the handicaps of soil and water. Also, there has been an uneven impact of growth on the welfare of various classes of farmers. The agricultural growth experience highlights vast intra-and-interregional differences.

There is now substantial evidence that the structure of landownership and size of landholdings have been the major sources of income disparities in rural Pakistan. However, the changes which have

occurred in the pattern of ownership and use of land in the last thirty five years are not very clear.

A close examination of the agrarian structure in Pakistan reveals the existence of three distinct sectors, coexisting but contending with each other. The first sector is the oldest of the three, dominated by quasi-feudal relations between landlords and sharecroppers. While the strength of this sector has declined in some districts of the Punjab, it still remains quite powerful in Sind. A high concentration of land ownership has continued, despite the claims to the contrary in the land reforms of 1959 and 1972.

The only major change observed in the landlord-tenant nexus since the early seventies has been the heightened tensions between the two parties. While social equilibrium is maintained on the surface by the police and judiciary of the State, production relations have been affected adversely in several areas. For instance, the "revolution of rising expectations" among the hars (peasants) in Sind seems to have turned into an experience of rising frustrations for them and increased fear for their landlords.

The second sector comprises a mass of small and medium cultivating owners, who depend mainly on family labour. This sector is dominant in many areas of the Punjab, but is small and of recent origin in Sind. Many of these owner-operators owe their existence to settlements schemes and land re-

form programmes. Production in this sector is still largely for family consumption, although more of it is now market-oriented. Capital is both scarce and inaccessible. These peasants have often been left out from the aid and subsidy programmes of the Government.

In many areas of the Punjab, the co-existence of large and "enterprising" farmers is a major source of further squeeze on small and marginal owner-operators. The highly imperfect markets for inputs and outputs tend to interact with State policies in accentuating disparities in income-earning opportunities.

The third sector is of recent origin. It comprises large landowners and rich peasants, with access to markets and new technology. We see in this sector the burgeoning capitalist relations of production, in which the owner hires wage labour to work with land and machines. These farmers enjoy the highest and the most visible place in the development programmes of the Government, as they also exert the greatest influence on markets and public sector activities.

They were at the centre of the "bimodal" strategy of development in the sixties, which is being advocated strongly by some in the country today. It must be stressed that the capitalist relations have not become exclusive in this sector. It still retains many remnants of pre-capitalist agriculture. It has made serious inroads probably in the central and eastern regions of

the Punjab and acquired some strength in Hyderabad and Nawabshah districts of Sind.

The observed changes in landownership reflect a complex interaction of market and non-market forces. The market forces have gained strength since the late sixties, after the development of substantial water resources and introduction of fertilizer with new seeds of wheat and rice. The non-market forces, such as the land reforms of early sixties and seventies, may have had some influence on the distribution of landownership and tenancy.

Pakistan had inherited a land system in which ownership was concentrated in the hands of a minority of landlords who neither managed nor cultivated their lands and the majority of peasants cultivated the lands over which they had hardly any rights. The rhetoric of reforms in the early days of Pakistan was never translated into action, except for the marginal adjustments in tenancy relations in the Punjab and Sind.

The political decay of the fifties led to the imposition of Martial

Law in late 1958. The army regime carried out land reforms in the early sixties. The major beneficiaries were not the landless share croppers and marginal owners, but the medium and large owners. In fact, the land reforms of 1959 gave a large measure of legitimacy to the Ayub regime and created for its support a cadre of middle-class landowners.

The next land reforms programme was launched in early 1972, following the dismemberment of Pakistan and installation of the Pakistan People's Party in power. While the announced reforms looked quite radical, the implementation process was not consistent with the rhetoric of the ruling party. The landless tenants received little if any support to become independent and viable, and large landowners were manipulated into supporting the regime.

These reforms increased the expectations of the peasants and heightened fear among the landlords. In the face of mounting political pressure, and to reassert its

socialist rhetoric, the regime announced a new and more radical programme of land reforms in early 1977. However, after the imposition of Martial Law in July 1977, the process of implementation of these reforms was effectively suspended.

Studies of relative productivity by farm size and tenancy, have shown that small farms had higher yield levels than large farms mainly because they used their resources more intensively. Similarly, there is evidence that small owner-operated holdings were more productive than sharecropped farms. The more recent evidence of possibly higher productivity of large farms reflects market distortions and public policy favouring the large landowners.

The case for a radical readjustment in ownership and tenancy relations is a strong one. The highly differentiated agrarian structure has not had a healthy impact on agricultural development, and if food productivity is to be increased, the structure of landownership needs to be reformed.

POSTAL SERVICE STATISTICS PUBLISHED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 82 p 6

[Text]

SERVICES OFFERED:

1. Postal:

- a. Exchange of official, commercial and private letters and communications;
- b. Means for the dissemination of knowledge, culture and information on national and current affairs through a lower priced (compared to letters) exchange of printed matter;
- c. Facilities to trade and industry for exchange of samples of merchandise at minimum possible cost;
- d. Promotion of trade through the exchange of lightweight parcels;
- e. Facilities for the remittances of small sums of money from one person to another through the postal orders and money order services.

2. Agency functions:

(A) On behalf of the Federal Government:

- 1. Deposits in and withdrawal from Post Office Savings Bank. (There is great variety in types of accounts which include fixed deposits and other investment schemes).
- 2. Issue and discharge of Savings Certificates. (There are several types of these certificates with varying rates of profit).
- 3. Sale and encashment of Prize Bonds.

4. Facilities for Life Insurance for the common man.

- 5. Sale of excise stamps, passport and visa stamps etc.
- 6. Payment of pensions of military pensioners.
- 7. Provision of telegraph facilities in rural areas.
- 8. Collection of telephone bills.

9. Printing and supply of various non-postal stamps.

- 10. Printing and sale of agricultural loan pass-books.

11. Sale of Highway Code to the holders of driving licences.

12. Collection of Zakat on Postal investments like Savings Banks, Cash Certificates.

(B) On behalf of Provincial Government:

- (1) Sale of revenue stamps, vehicle tax stamps, Arms Licence and Driving Licence fee stamps, traffic fines coupons, vehicles fitness stamps etc.

- (2) Recovery of motor vehicles tax from owners of private vehicles (except in Sind).

- (3) Renewal of motor driving licences.

- (4) Renewal of arms licences.

- (5) Printing and supply of various non-postal stamps (judicial, non-judicial, court fee etc.).

II. POSTAL STATISTICS:

3. Number of Post Offices:			
a. Urban	2,440	Total	
b. Rural	8,948		11,388
c. Number of inhabitants per post office.			7,288
d. Area per post office			70 sq. km.
4. Number of postal staff:			
(a) Whole-time	27,000		
(b) Part-time	14,000		41,000
5. Number of Letter Box			23,000
6. Number of Post Office Boxes			20,000
7. Number of motor vehicles			125
8. Number of postal buildings:			
a. Departmental	401		
b. Rented	1,304		2,305
9. Franking machines			280
10. Stamp cancelling machines			45
11. Letter sorting machines			5
12. Postal Revenue 1981-82:			
Gross Receipts		Expenditure	Debtors
413,500,000		472,071,000	58,371,000
13. Postal Traffic 1981-82:			
i. Parcels:			
Unregistered		605,000,000	
Accountable		24,000,000	
ii. Parcels:			
Unregistered		4,224,000	
Accountable		2,444,000	
		No.	Amount
iii. Money Orders Issued		4,075,000	1,132,451,000
Money Orders Paid		4,109,000	1,139,909,000
iv. Postal Orders Issued		580,000	3,708,000
Postal Orders Paid		214,800	3,708,000
v. Savings Bank Accounts		950,300	1,941,656,500
vi. Savings Certificates		794,500	1,803,629,500
vii. P.L.I. Policies		134,650	1,541,000,000

CSO: 4200/44

CURTAILING DEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAYS CRITICIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 82 p 9

[Editorial]

[Text] A SUMMING up of all that is wrong with the railways in Pakistan would make an odious document. But an analysis of the conceptual flaw in the determination of railways' role in the overall transportation system would be even worse. We have occasionally attempted to explain the meaning of the decline and fall of the railways. The message can be conveyed one more time across authoritative tracks laid down by the recent Inter-Government Railway Group Meeting held in Bangkok. Since Pakistan was attending the meeting held under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), one can at least expect a willingness to recognise that the issue is of a vital nature. The Bangkok meeting was stating simple logic when it stressed that in the present times of energy crisis, railways could again become the dominant mode of transportation in Asia. It is easily understood that railways

are the most energy-efficient mode of transport — about five times more efficient than trucks for carrying freight over medium and long distances, according to a paper presented at the meeting. The setback that the railways suffered in recent decades because of the intensive development of road transport in the era of cheap energy is being repaired in many countries after an astronomical rise in energy prices. In Europe, railways are passing through a period of renaissance. Less industrialised Asian countries have a more persuasive reason to depend more heavily on railways. The rail system, irrespective of the energy dimension, has also provided the most satisfactory answer to the needs of mass transit in congested urban areas.

Pakistan, somehow, has been oblivious of these considerations. On the other hand, it has created an unrealistic as well as socially and economically injurious

market for air travel. Massive investments have also been made in road transport, particularly in buying modern fleets of trucks. The argument that the railways have not been able to cope with new demands has been self-serving, leading to a steady decline in the volume of passengers and freight. A news item sometime ago, quoting railway officials, that the 40-mile long Khanpur-Chachran branch line "will be closed down and the material of the track and Chachran railway station will be auctioned" can be symbolic of what may be termed as a national aberration. There was another report more recently about the Pakistan Railways planning to close down some "uneconomical" trains. Instead of expanding, the system is being curtailed. Without going into reasons that have bred this distortion of national priorities, we must argue forcefully for a thorough reconsideration of the policy regarding transportation. The story of the decay in the

railway establishment need not be repeated. The fact that while the population of the country is increasing, the number of passengers travelling by train has declined is eloquent enough. The length of the track in the country has remained static at about 1,476 miles and the track has not been sufficiently renovated to allow faster trains. The only pronounced growth has taken place in the number of the officers in the employ of this service.

The remedy no longer lies in partial improvements. Inefficiency in and technical shortcomings of the railways have to be tackled in their turn. But vitally crucial is the formation of a national transportation policy offering a right mix of the

different modes of transport in accordance with our national requirements and the economy of operation. The Bangkok meeting had called for a reassessment of the role of railway transportation against the background of a country's economic, social and political priorities. Overall transportation objectives have to be borne in mind. Railways can become the dominant mode of transport if proper attention is given to their cost efficiency and high suitability for specific transportation needs. The primacy that the railway system deserves in Pakistan, where large cities are separated by long distances, is not to be overlooked. It has repeatedly been argued that we lack the resources to improve

and enlarge the network. But viewed in the context of an overall strategy, the question of resources becomes subservient to long-term national interests. A national policy will have to determine how the different modes of transport should be developed in a complementary way so that maximum benefits can be drawn from the inherent strengths of each system in our situation. The price of promoting air transport at the expense of the railways is already evident and will become unbearable in the future. Likewise, long-distance road transport can only serve a limited purpose. Without an efficient railway system, we will soon be stranded in our journey of national development.

CSO: 4200/44

LAWYERS' CONVENTION ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 82 p 18

[Text] LAHORE, Oct 8: The All-Pakistan Lawyers Convention yesterday set up a 50-member implementation committee comprising 10 members each from the Punjab, Sind, NWFP, Baluchistan and Azad Kashmir to implement the resolutions it has adopted. The committee would continue to function until a federation of Bar Associations is formed.

The convention endorsed a call from All-Pakistan Bar Council Conference for a nationwide token strike for three hours, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct 16.

The convention also appealed to the people to share "our voix" on issues highlighted by it at its meeting.

Resolutions

Earlier, in a declaration, the convention maintained that: the 1973 Constitution had adequate provisions for bringing existing laws in conformity with the injunctions of Islam.

The declaration noted that a strong and independent judiciary was the ultimate arbiter and guarantor of civil rights and liberties, and all attempts to stifle the powers of judiciary were against the vital interests of the country.

The declaration said that the creation of Pakistan was the result of an epochal democratic struggle led by a lawyer — Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah — and given philosophical basis by another lawyer — Allama Iqbal.

The declaration further maintained that the community had launched a struggle for restoration of civil rights, establishment of

rule of law and a constitutional government and the repeal of all oppressive laws.

By a resolution, the convention asserted that the introduction of the Provisional Constitutional Order of Provisional Order of 1981 had done "incalculable damage" to the independence of judiciary and the enforcement of the rights of citizens.

The resolution demanded the withdrawal of the PCO, the repeal of all laws, orders or regulations which directly or indirectly "tend to bar or curtail the jurisdiction of the superior courts; the abolition of the trials of civilians by military courts to ensure open and free trial in accordance with ordinary laws."

The resolution said that every citizen be provided an opportunity for proper legal assistance, and maintained that all fundamental changes in law be left to future elected parliament.

Through another resolution, the convention urged the Government to withdraw the proposed Qazi Courts Ordinance as its provisions were aimed at further curtailing the jurisdiction of the superior courts and depriving the citizens of their right to seek redress of their grievances from them.

The resolution maintained that the Ordinance would stifle the independence of the judiciary and would only cause chaos, confusion and uncertainty in administration of justice.

Another resolution demanded the immediate repeal of such provisions of the Bar Council Act as sought to perpetuate individuals in offices beyond the term for which they had been elected.

It also called for the repeal of those provisions which sought to destroy the strength and the very representative character of Bar Association and which purported to prohibit Bar Associations and Bar Councils from performing their moral, legal and constitutional duties "by dubbing them as political activities."

The convention also demanded the release of detenus including lawyers.

Another resolution said it was unfortunate that political leaders, including Air Marshal (retd) Asghar Khan, Miss Benazir Bhutto, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan and Mr Saleem Kurd, were being held in illegal detention.

Yet another resolution demanded that the curbs on Press and the media be withdrawn immediately and the journalists and Press workers be released without delay.

The convention strongly criticised the denial of freedom of movement within the country and between the provinces. It noted with concern that the Government had not yet granted permission to Begum Nusrat Bhutto to proceed abroad for treatment.

Clarification

A Press release issued in Karachi yesterday by Syed Nasiruddin, President, High Court Bar Association, Karachi, has clarified that Mr Abdul Malik who addressed the Convention of lawyers in Lahore on Oct 7 is not Acting General Secretary of High Court Bar, Karachi.

The Press release added: "So far as the Karachi High Court Bar Association is concerned it did not officially participate in the said convention. Its policy has been fully reflected in its resolutions, which have already appeared in newspap-

ers of Oct 6, 1982. This Association has not opposed all the amendments introduced in the Legal practitioners and Bar Council Act. However, it had expressed the view that a few of them may be deleted.

Further, it has expressly declared that this Bar Association is not for any confrontation with the authorities but stands for making appropriate representations to the Government as to the matters pertaining to the members of the Bar."

CSO: 4200/44

CORRUPTION, SUBVERSION IN MULTAN DIVISION OF PAKISTAN RAILWAYS

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 16 Aug 82 pp 25-26

[Article by Anwar Nizami: "Letter From Multan: Pakistani Railway's Multan Division--Center of Corruption"]

[Text] The secret of success lies not only in discipline and unity but also in honesty and probity. But our countrymen see themselves becoming perpetual victims of robbery and extortion. Hooligans have made the lives of decent people a nightmare. Corrupt elements have made shops out of offices and seem to be in a race with each other, so much so that bribery has become the slogan of every department.

The Country Is Called a Police State

We do not enjoy a good reputation in other countries because we have not yet formulated a course of action.

Army rule has become this country's irrevocable fate.

The people hated the former government because all the same evils existed then as well.

When President Zia came into office and asked for 90 days to prepare for elections, the people unanimously shouted, "Long live President Zia." When assurances were given on the protection of homes and honor, newspaper files show that the honorable leaders attached little importance to them and treated these assurances as though they were the mutterings of a madman. What do the people want? President Zia knows that whether elections were held or not, the nation wants civil liberties; it wants freedom of expression and the press; it wants the unrestricted power of the police reduced. The first wish of every citizen is to see corrupt elements purged from governmental departments. But for more than 5 years, what has President Zia's government done for the people? This is a question being pondered and analyzed by everyone. We face two paths, one leading to security, the other to destruction. What skullduggeries have we committed in the name of Islam?

Negative tendencies and emotional slogans are heard in the country. Victory will go to the group that persists in exploiting the name of Islamic administration. The confusion reigning in offices and departments around the country

is quite another story. As to what is happening in Multan, no one seems to notice because we have taken the wrong course in the belief that it is the right one. These are the symptoms of destruction. The history of Andalusia shows that the Muslims brought about their own destruction and have never recovered from the ignominy. Every department in Multan has become a rampaging bull. People ask what kind of a martial law is it that plays political chess instead of solving the people's problems.

A cry was raised this year over the fact that Pakistan Railways suffered a loss of more than 200 million rupees. The question is, why did the railway suffer such a huge loss? Has an investigation taken place? Did the federal minister of railways, Said Qadir, tender his resignation? Was the chairman of the railways anguished? There was no need for it, for it is written in our railway's fate that it should lose money. The railway may never show a profit because we have decided that the treasury should be looted, and bribery is necessary too. Embezzlement, fraud, bribery and illegal activities are rife in the railway in Multan, but railway officials there are not responsible for it. If queried, they silence the questioner by asking, did we embezzle the millions of rupees in the purchase of railway engines? Now even the FIA [Federal Investigative Authority] has decided to bow to expediency and close its eyes to corruption in the railway. After all, in these times of emergency conditions, the FIA people also have to stay alive.

Who Is Doing What in the Signal Department

Multan railway has a signal department that is in charge of all signalling activities. The department carries a heavy responsibility because a single mistake on its part can destroy many families. Unfortunately, this department is a nest of corruption and Mr Bhatti is in charge of it. Enquiries into his activities have been made several times with a view to setting him straight and he has been issued notices, but all to no avail. Mr Bhatti must have the blessing of high officials, because he remains untouched. A few days ago, news items were published in newspapers and it was announced that investigations must be made; but through his connections, Mr Bhatti was able to nullify these efforts. But railway cars continue to derail. Corrupt practices going on in the railway are documented in the railway records, which show that Mr Bhatti forged railroad passes in order to sell valuable government property such as cement and welding rods to businessmen in other cities. The honest employees of the department submitted petitions to high officials complaining of these illegal activities, but these honest individuals were the ones who were victimized. Attempts were made to have them fired by altering their attendance records to show that they were absent when they were in fact on the job. Mr Bhatti is now reported to be rolling in millions. The investigations into his activities have been forgotten, thanks to his wealth. Does the signal department's Mr Bhatti enjoy greater influence than President Zia or Governor Jilani?

Are Railway Employees' Apartments No Better Than Jails?

Multan railway has constructed apartments for its lower grade railway employees near the station on which more than 10 million rupees have been spent.

The officials, however, to fill their own pockets, had the apartments designed in such a way that they are no better than pretty jails. The employees have refused to live in them. A section of the apartments is unfortunately going to be razed. Can the railways chairman, Mr Kalam, conduct an enquiry into this corruption?

The Revolutionary Union's Activities

A particular railway union may have influence in the railways throughout the country, but in Multan there is a so-called workers' revolutionary union that is directly connected with a Jewish labor organization and receives money and literature from it. The surprising fact is that the officials of this revolutionary union wield influence in every branch of the Multan railway. Appointments and transfers are made on their secret orders, used tickets are sold on their say-so and an official of the revolutionary union is a booking clerk who not only depletes the national treasury but is also pro-Jewish. He receives money and officials dance to the union's tune. Patriotic railway labor organizations, meanwhile, stand helplessly on the sidelines, watching the drama unfold. This frightening, so-called revolutionary union has been distributing pamphlets over the past few days saying such things as:

President Zia is going and Russia is coming. We need prosperity, not Islam. Restore the 1973 constitution. All revolution-loving railway employees are one. Prem [love; also a leftist railway employees' union] is the ruler.

Playing cards are also being distributed which one cannot write about. Calling "Prem" the ruler is an example. The officials of PREM are either Hindus or members of congress. Can intelligence agencies explain how and why all this is taking place? The people of Multan know that certain Jewish labor leaders from the United States inaugurated the congress in Multan's best hotel and instigated the workers to follow a policy of violence. The above-mentioned railway organization was the leader in the activity.

The Deplorable Condition of the Railway Employees' Living Areas

The living quarters of railway employees in Multan are relics of the past--streets filled with garbage and a lack of drinking water; they are still supplied water through the diesel engine's tube well. Railway records show that diesel fuel is spirited away. Railway records are also made to show that repairs are made on employee quarters, but in reality the materials that should have been used for these repairs are stolen and fraudulent bills obtained from contractors are submitted to government audit teams. Investigations into these matters can be done on the spot.

The Imperial Acts of the Electrical Departments

The railway has an electrical department that is in charge of all electrical work. The officials of this department are equally imperious. Records show that lightbulbs, electric fans, expensive electrical wiring and tubes are all shown on order but disappear by means of fraudulent receipts. Hundreds of thousands of rupees are embezzled because of the corrupt practices of the department head. One cannot understand why those who can call for an

explanation are silent. The federal minister for railways, Said Qadir, and the chairman of the railways have to be held accountable.

A complete white paper on the corruption in Multan railway would take up many pages. But most of the evidence is contained in the railway records. If they have the courage, federal Minister Said Qadir and the chairman of the railways, Mr Kalam, should take immediate note, because the railway's white elephants not only tarnish the reputation of these two officials but also rob the national treasury of millions of rupees.

9863

CSO: 4203/194

MABUBUL HAQ IDENTIFIES PRIORITY AREAS FOR 6TH PLAN

Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 pp 1, 9

[Text]

LAHORE, Oct 15: Dr Mahbubul Haq Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, today spelled out 11 priority choices as major thrusts envisaged for the socio-economic development during the Sixth Five-Year Plan.

Describing the basis of the future economic order as an initiative to bring the policies of growth and distribution closer, he mentioned certain departures, to be made as an inevitable risk in response to the changing perceptions and requirements of the economic situation.

He was making his inaugural speech at a two-day national seminar on "New Socio-Economic Order for Pakistan" organised by the Economists Discussion Group of Experts (EDGE).

The priority choices narrated by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, included a decisive breakthrough in the provision of the physical infrastructure and social services to the rural areas, more development powers to the local bodies, to encourage diversification in agriculture to raise production for self reliance and exports development of Baluchistan as a new agrarian frontier, industrialisation to replace the en-

gineering goods with primary reliance on private sector for the achievement of objectives of the Sixth Plan in this sector, employment expansion through agro-based and small-scale industrial exports, the co-existence of the private and public sectors within their broadly defined roles, enhanced allocations of the percentage of the GNP in the field of science and technology introduction of a new education system, a new infrastructure for providing board-based health services to the people, especially in the rural areas better and improved public services with the introduction or enhancement of user charges to reduce government subsidies.

Points elaborated

Elaborating his points further Dr Mahbubul Haq said that presently the Planning Commission was exploring the feasibility of a six to seven per cent growth rate in the Gross Domestic Product in the Sixth Plan period. Even if the level of 6.5 per cent was attained "we can provide for the growth in population and still allow for an improvement of income of Rs.800 per family per year" he added.

For the just distribution of a national income among various sec-

tions of the society, he suggested a five-point formula for consideration of the experts.

Regarding transformation of rural life he said it was the intention of the Government to provide electricity to all the 45,000 villages in the country, double the farm-to-market roads, raise the percentage of rural populations served with clean drinking water from the present 20 per cent of the population to about 50 per cent, to increase the proportion of the rural primary school-age children from below 50 per cent to 75 per cent.

In the field of agriculture Dr Mahbubul Haq said that one of the major initiatives in the Sixth Plan would be to engineer sizeable exports of food from Pakistan that is from the existing difference of about 50 to 100 crore of income in the export and import of food to about Rs 1000 crore. At present, he said, Pakistan was exporting, mainly rice of about Rs.600 crore, while food imports of about Rs.500 crore were being made annually particularly of tea, milk and oilseeds.

In this connection he listed a few items to expand exports which included high value crops like fruits vegetables, flowers, livestock, poultry etc. He said in the past such items had been regarded ironically as "minor crops" which now be go-

ven the same attention and priority as the major crops received.

Baluchistan

Regarding Baluchistan, he said that the areas comprised of the 43 per cent of the total areas of the country, containing 15 million acres of cultivable land.

This was one of the richest areas in the country in terms of its agrarian potential. Only about 20 per cent of this arable areas is actually cultivated.

Giving reference to the allocation of funds in the field of science and technology, he said that as a nation we should be ashamed of ourselves for having spent only 0.1 to 0.2 per cent of our GNP on research and development while other developing countries were spending about one per cent of their GNP or more.

Similarly, in the field of education he said Pakistan was spending about one-sixth of its GNP and on health only one-fifth of the GNP.

Income policy

Describing the income policy as the first major issue in the national debate on the Sixth Plan, Dr Mahbubul Haq invited the participants of the seminar to give their careful consideration to this ever-present danger in many developing countries, where the total production of a nation increased without a corresponding increase in the economic welfare of its masses. He said we had witnessed an improvement in income distribution recently, thanks to fast expanding farm incomes, workers' remittances and introduction of Zakat. But, he added, we must debate seriously on how economic growth was going to be distributed in future and through what policies, and how to manage all this without weakening production incentives.

Big objective

One of the principal objectives of the Sixth Plan, he said, would be to bring about a real transformation in our rural scene.

He said it was our intention to give the first priority in the Sixth Plan to achieving a decisive breakthrough in the provision of physical infrastructure and social services to the rural areas.

Food exports

One of the major initiatives in the Sixth Plan, Dr Mahbubul Haq, said, would be to engineer sizeable export of food from Pakistan. We must replace our oilseeds and milk imports gradually through expanded domestic production as well as greatly increase our exports of fruits and vegetables, livestock, poultry, and even flowers, which were presently less than Rs 30 crores a year.

It was time, he said, that we focused our national attention on Baluchistan as a new agrarian frontier where a tremendous increase in agricultural production was possible through bold and imaginative policies of valley development.

Industrialisation

He said if we, as a nation, were to start thinking of Pakistan as a food-exporting, rather than as a food-deficit area, a basic structural shift must take place in the national psychology. We would have to get rid of rationing, price controls, control on movement of crops, and many other unnecessary encumbrances which might have been needed in a period of scarcity but which would have no place in our national policies in a period of surplus.

Turning to the programme of industrialisation, Dr Mahbubul Haq said that despite significant strides, we still had a long way to travel on the road to industrialisation. In our view, Sixth Plan industrial strategy should have three basic elements: import substitution, export-led growth and a genuinely active private sector.

He said the Sixth Plan would place primary reliance on private sector for the achievement of its industrial objectives. While there

was no question of Government being in the export expansion industries, the doors would also be open to the private sector in all the import-substituting engineering industries. The private sector must step forward to take up the new opportunities.

He said the truth was that public and private sectors must learn to live together in a spirit of cooperation within the framework that we were developing in the Sixth Plan.

Concluding, Dr Mahbubul Haq said that development had been defined in many ways but to him its message was simple. It was reflected in the happiness of a rural family whose home was suddenly brightened by electricity. It was mirrored in the faces of those children who for once get an opportunity to lead a healthy and educated life. It was expressed in the relief of a simple farmer who no longer had to bend down to drink polluted water from a dirty pond. It was measured by the full reward of an honest day's work.

A plan, he added must have a soul and a human dimension. It must be rooted in the economic needs and cultural values of a society.

He said the real challenge today was to bring the policies of growth and distribution closer together and this could be done only if the general masses participated in production, employment and social services at all levels of society. In the final analysis, he added, economic development would mean little to our people if it did not touch their daily life.

He said that the formulation of an income policy became necessary along with the production policy.

Discussing various elements in the income policy, the Planning Commission Deputy Chairman said there must be a rapid spread of production and employment opportunities to embrace all sections of the society. There must be greater

emphasis on small farms and small industries and workers of small means everywhere. There must be indexation for the incomes of the fixed-income groups, particularly, urban middle class, which is badly squeezed by the inflation. There must be social safety nets available for the poorest and the indigent. And there must be a regular monitoring of the distribution of income in the country between various income groups — between rural and urban areas and between various economic sectors, so as to make timely corrections through the fiscal policy and other means.

For national debate

Agency adds:

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Dr Mahbubul Haq, called for a national debate on the Sixth Five-Year Plan as, he observed, development planning was important and could not be left alone to the national planners.

A development plan, Dr Mahbubul Haq said, affected the life of every individual and, therefore, it could not be regarded as the private property of any Government. For once, he added, let there be a free exchange of ideas on the economic and social issues facing the country.

As to the development strategy, to be pursued in the Sixth Plan, he said, it must combine a strong production base with a strong social conscience. This, he added, was not a mere slogan or a catchword, but, in fact, the essence of the whole development debate. Like other developing countries, he said, the Pakistan pendulum had swung far too violently from growth to distribution and back again different stages of its development. As a nation, we simply could not afford these violent swings of the pendulum and the luxury of creating growth in one decade to distribute it in the next, he added.

IMPORTANCE OF ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR STRESSED

Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 p 3

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct 15: The Finance Minister Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, said here today that under the Sixth Five-Year-Plan, to be launched in July 1983, the private sector will enjoy even greater role in the industrialisation besides its predominant position in agriculture.

Speaking at the luncheon hosted by him in honour of the Pakistan-Canada Trade and Economic Council delegation, the Minister said in the recent years, various measures had been taken to improve the investment climate. He said that encouragement and incentives had been provided to the private sector to play its role in the industrialisation of the country.

He said collaboration between the private sectors of the two countries would not be to the benefit of Pakistan alone. It would stimulate activity in both the countries.

Dealing with industrialisation, the Minister maintained that in the next phase, engineering and export industries and other high technologies would provide the spearhead.

Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said economic co-operation between Pakistan and Canada has had long standing at a government to government level.

He said the accent that is being already placed by the Government of Pakistan on the sectors of agriculture, energy and social services as far as public sector expenditure is concerned, and which will assume even more prominence in the Sixth Plan period, fully conforms with the decision of the Canadian Government to allocate the bulk of its aid to these spheres.

The Finance Minister said, however, it is the policy of the Government to encourage maximum involvement of the private sector in these spheres and to continue the government's commitment to balancing, modernisation and expansion of existing public enterprises through their own resources. It is opportune at a time when the Government of Pakistan is trying to revive the role of the private sector in industries, that the Pakistan-Canada Council should have been born.

The Finance Minister said various forms of collaboration between SNC and Pakistan counterparts have either matured or are on the anvil. "We have noted with great interest and expectation agreement between NESPAK and SNC on the third country projects. We also hope that the interest shown by SNC and the Quebec Government to participate in Saudak copper and other projects will mature into a successful joint venture."

Pakistan Economy

He maintained that the Pakistan economy has shown a resilience and dynamism that should attract inflow of external capital by ensuring its efficient utilisation. Since the present government took over in 1977, it has endeavoured with a fair measure of success to revitalise economic growth and the Gross Domestic Product has increased at an average rate of 6.4 per cent a year for five consecutive years. Until the crunch of the current world recession and the slump of commodity prices arrested the growth in the last fiscal year, exports increased at 25 per cent per annum in value and 15 per cent per annum in

volume terms. Import volumes, on the other hand, increased at only 5 per cent per annum.

The Finance Minister said the country achieved self-sufficiency in wheat and recorded advance in exports of rice and cotton beyond the projection made in the Fifth Five-year Plan. Industrial output rose at a rate of around 9 per cent per annum. Pakistan has reached self-sufficiency in nitrogenous fertilizer and is likely to do so in cement during the next fiscal year. "We have brought down the rate of growth in money supply from over 20 per cent a year to under 15 per cent a year by clamping down on Government deficits." Government borrowing from the banking system has been brought down to 1.5 per cent of GDP compared with 4.0 per cent before the present government assumed office. This has permitted adequate flows of credit to the private sector and at the same time lowered the inflation rate from an average of 17 per cent in the five years ending in 1977 to about 10 per cent thereafter. Indeed, the latest indicator shows an increase of only 5.8 per cent.

The Minister pointed out that this process of recovery and stabilisation would not have been possible but for the imposition of strict financial and monetary discipline on the economy which entailed considerable sacrifices on the part of the people. As part of this discipline, the Government also has to hold back on various investments especially in public industrial enterprises.

"We have announced as a policy that in future public industrial enterprises will be self-financed or seek funds on the market for new ventures and left the sphere of future industrialisation to private enterprise," he added.

The Finance Minister said that in

recent years various measures were taken to improve the investment country.

The Minister said that the Export Processing Zone in Karachi must have noticed that it has fully completed its first phase with adequate facilities of water, electricity, telephone connections, roads and the sewerage system. As many as 25 projects with foreign investment of US dollar 136 million in the field of electronics, ready-made garments, fibre glass etc., have been sanctioned. The Karachi Export Processing Zone offers incentives and concessions to foreign investors comparable to those available in such zones elsewhere in the region.

Earlier on arrival here the leader of the 18-member Canadian delegation of traders and entrepreneurs, Mr G. Lavallee, President, Pak-Canada Trade and Economic Council, said that they had come to pursue and promote collaboration between Pakistan and Canada in various economic fields.

Mr Lavallee said that so far 28 Canadian companies had become the member of the Pak-Canada Trade and Economic Council and the Council was contemplating to establish its secretariat shortly.

Meeting with Zia

The delegation met President, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq at the Federal Council Secretariat here this evening.

During the meeting which lasted for some time matters relating to expansion of economic collaboration between Canada and Pakistan came up for discussion. The possibilities of promoting joint ventures between the two countries were also discussed.

Federal Minister for Finance, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and the Federal Minister for Industries, Mr Ishaq Bux Soomro were also present on the occasion.—APP/PPI

BRIEFS

ZIA'S ASSURANCE ON BHUTTO--President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has denied that his Government's response to Begum Nusrat Bhutto's request for permission to go abroad for medical treatment has been discriminatory. He said that appearance before a medical board was a standard procedure in all such cases. If it was found necessary for her to have treatment outside the country she would be sent abroad at State expense. President Zia added.--BBC [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 1]

ISLAMIC ALLIANCE PLANNED--Multan, Oct 14--Khan Ashraf Khan, leader of defunct Khaksar Tehrik, announced here that new "Islami Ittehad" would soon be formed to work for establishing Islamic order in the country. In an interview to a local Urdu daily, the Khaksar leader said that the new alliance would comprise all the Islam-loving parties in the country. It would fight against subversive activities of internal and external elements opposed to Islamisation efforts. Ashraf Khan said all political parties should forget differences and unite on one platform. He disclosed that he had discussed the establishment of the new alliance with leaders of defunct parties, JUP, JUI and Ahle Hadis, and added that he would meet Mian Tufail Mohammad of defunct JI at Lahore. The Khaksar leader pointed out that introduction of complete Islamic order would be the main objective of Islami Ittehad. He warned that a round-table conference, proposed by Maulana Noorani, would not be successful.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6]

ROUND TABLE PROPOSAL SUPPORTED--Central Information Secretary of the defunct Pakistan Democratic Party (PDP) Mr Nasimuddin, has supported the proposal of holding round-table conference (RTC) of the political parties. In a statement issued here he however, opposed the move to invite any representative of the Government to the proposed RTC. The PDP leader demanded of the Government to allow Begum Bhutto to go abroad for her medical treatment.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6]

CHAFOOR'S CLAIM REFUTED--A leader of the defunct Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam, Sind, Mr Mohammad Iqbal, has refuted Prof Ghafoor Ahmed's claim that the JUI had favoured the imposition of Martial Law in the country. In a statement issued here yesterday he said, on the contrary, it was the defunct Jamiat-i-Islami which provided protection to the Martial Law by demanding the accountability of the political leaders before holding of general elections.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6]

WEEKLY FORFEITED--Peshawar, Oct 14--The Government of NWFP has forfeited all copies of the Urdu weekly magazine "Hayat" under the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance 1963, as "they contained venomous material against Pakistan."--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6]

CRASH LITERACY PROGRAM LAUNCHED--Crash literacy programme, which will be merged later with the Sixth Five-Year Plan has been launched by the Federal Government all over the country from July last to help increase the literacy ratio. Mr Ashraf W. Tabani, Sind Minister for Finance said this on Wednesday night at a function organised by the St Patrick's Alumni in honour of Rt Rev Anthony Lobo on his appointment to the office of the Bishop of Karachi. Felicitating Mr Anthony Lobo, he appreciated his struggle for popularising education at all levels. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Anthony Lobo, Principal of the School, stressed the need for cooperation between the teachers and the parents and said that regular meetings will be conducted between them so that they work together for the betterment of their children. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6]

IJT'S ROLE LAUDED--Lahore, Oct 14--A veteran leader of defunct Jamaat-i-Islami, an intellectual and writer, Maulana Naeem Siddiqi has said that after the Armed Forces, Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba (IJT) is the only organisation which can ensure the defence and integrity of the country. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 20]

ATTACK ON VC CONDEMNED--Peshawar, Oct 14--A meeting of the staff and Students of the Khyber Medical College here was held on Tuesday to consider the situation arising out of the Engineering University students attack on the Administration Block of the Peshawar University and man-handling of the Vice-Chancellor. Both the teachers and students expressed their profound sense of shock at the tragic incident and urged the Government to take strict disciplinary action against those responsible for the afront. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 7]

CHAFOOR ON POLITICAL CONSENSUS--Prof Chafoor Ahmed of the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami has urged the political parties to reach consensus on the basic issues, as a first step, to get the government to hold elections and transfer power to the elected representatives. These issues, he told a Press conference, were restoration of 1973 Constitution, proportionate representation, enforcement of Islamic laws, safeguarding of provincial autonomy, freedom of Press, judiciary's independence and its separation from the executive, and unconditional release of all political detenus.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Oct 82 p 12]

ROUND TABLE ON NOVEMBER 15--Sialkot, Oct 15--The President of the defunct Pakistan Muslim League, Pir Pagaro, has said the proposed roundtable conference of national political leaders is expected to be held on Nov 15. Addressing a Press conference here today he said the final date and the agenda of the conference would, however, be announced by the chief of the defunct Jamiat Ulema Pakistan, Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 p 9]

PAKISTANI STUDENTS ABROAD--Mr Mohammad Ali Khan, Federal Minister for Education, informed the Majlis that US dollar 38.132 million foreign exchange had been spent during 1981-82 on students who were studying abroad. He was replying a question by Agha Sadruddin Durrani. [as published] He said the total number of students studying abroad, who were in receipt of foreign exchange remittances, was 1,516. He said there were many other Pakistani students studying abroad on their own expenses. Answering a supplementary question, he said the scholarships for foreign studies were given on purely merit basis. The decision for awarding scholarships was taken by a subcommittee of the Education Ministry, he added. [Excerpt] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 10]

PLEA FOR PRIVATE COLLEGES--Permission to open new private colleges should be granted by the education authorities so as to allow more students to get higher education, Mr M.I. Chishti, Secretary-General, All-Pakistan Lawyers' Association, said in Karachi on Thursday. In a statement, he noted that the Punjab and Baluchistan Governments had already given their consent to the setting up of new private colleges in the private sector. However, he continued, the Sind Government Education Department was persisting in its refusal to allow any private colleges to be established.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 p 3]

MAZARI'S PLEA TO PARTIES--Nawabshah, Oct 15--Sardar Sherbaz Khan Mazari, President, defunct NDP, said here today that all political parties should agree on one point--general elections in the country on the basis of the 1973 Constitution. Talking to newsmen at the Press Club here, he said issues regarding mode of election, separate electorate and proportionate representation should be left to the next elected assembly. Answering a question, Mr Mazari said parties which believe in restoration of democracy should join MRD. The NDP chief told a questioner that though he did not want to recall the past yet would like to tell that the movement of PNA in 1977 was not against the person of late Bhutto, but was for the restoration of democracy in the country. The PNA Movement of 1977, he added, was for the restoration of supremacy of law and repeal of arbitrary amendments in the Constitution. He demanded release of lawyers, withdrawal of cases against them and repeal of amendment in the Legal Practitioners and Bar Council Act. On arrival at the Press Club, the NDP chief condoled the death of the late Noor Abbasi, a local journalist and poet.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 p 9]

SMALL INDUSTRIAL UNITS--Faisalabad, Oct 15--Pakistanis living abroad are setting up 61 small industrial units involving an investment of Rs. 6364 million in the Small Industrial Estate, Faisalabad. This was disclosed here yesterday by Mr Naved Asif, Managing Director, Small Industries Corporation, after meeting with the Commissioner, Mr Javed Ahmed Qureshi. Mr Naved Asif said that the investment by the Pakistanis living abroad would be in the shape of import of machinery and foreign exchange. He said that these units would provide employment to 200 workers. Explaining the salient features of the Small Industrial Estate, Faisalabad, the Managing Director

said that including these 61 units 1,000 plots would be provided to the industrialists. He said that so far Rs. 27 million had been spent on the development of the industrial estate in Faisalabad covering an area of 244 acres. He said that the work of water supply to the estate and its administrative block had been completed while negotiations for the supply of Sui Gas are underway. He said that prospects of establishing an industrial estate in Toba Tek Singh were also discussed at the meeting. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 16 Oct 82 p 6]

ZIA ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY BAN--President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said last evening that the question of relaxing restrictions on political activity or placing more curbs on such activity would depend on the situation in the country. Replying to newsmen questions at the Karachi Airport on his arrival from Islamabad the President said, "I always believe in a neat and clean atmosphere in the country." Asked to comment on Press reports that there might be some relaxation in political activity prior to his visit to US, the President said the question of relaxing restrictions on political activity had no link with his visit to United States. "If conditions permit these restrictions could be softened or hardened," he added. Asked about the appointment of Mohtasib-i-Ala (Ombudsman) the President said it would be announced soon, possibly within two to four weeks. The President left Karachi last night for Rawalpindi. The Sind Governor, Lt-Gen S. M. Abbasi, and senior civil and military officials saw him off at the airport.--APP/PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 1]

PAKISTAN-IRAN TEXTILE MILL--Quetta, Oct 11: A composite and integrated Pak-Iran Textile Mill, completed at a cost of over Rs. 480 million at Baleli near Quetta, has now gone into full production. The mill equipped with 50,000 spindles and 1100 looms is designed to produce 22.73 million yards cotton and blended fabrics as well as 4.33 million rounds of yarn. According to PBC the total sales revenue of the mill has been estimated at Rs. 395.85 million per annum. It is an export oriented mill which will export annually fabric and yarn worth Rs. 148.4 million. The exports will be mainly to Iran, Middle East, African and European countries. The mill is providing employment for more than 3500 persons. It is a joint venture of the two countries in the public sector.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 4]

NEW DIVISION PROPOSED--Nawabshah, Oct 11: The District Council, Nawabshah, demanded that a new division, comprising Nawabshah, Dadu and Sanghar be created. In another resolution the house demanded that the Dadu-Moro bridge be named after Makhdoom Bilawal or be called Shahbaz bridge. A resolution, presented before the house in its current session and passed unanimously, said that Nawabshah be made as headquarter of this new division. The resolution was presented after the construction of Dadu-Moro bridge, which reduced the distance between the two districts by 200 miles. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 4]

PNP DEMANDS WITHDRAWAL OF RESTRICTIONS--The executive committee of the defunct Pakistan National Party (Sind Zone) met at Hyderabad on Oct 8 and passed a resolution, copies of which were made available to the Press yesterday. According to the resolution, the meeting considered the unity of all working class, intellectuals, peasants, women, youth and other democratic forces inevitable for the restoration of democracy in the country. The meeting demanded immediate withdrawal of all restrictions on political parties and political activities. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 9]

ASCHAR KHAN'S DETENTION CRITICIZED--The Chairman of defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, Sind, Mr Ahmad Mian Soomro has criticised the continued detention of Air Marshal Asghar Khan. In a statement, he said the former Air Force chief is under detention for more than 30 months without charges and trial. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 9]

165 SHIPS BUILT--Islamabad, Oct 11: Mr Mohyuddin Baluch, Minister for Communications, informed the Majlis-i-Shoora today during the question hour that the Karachi Shipyard and Engineering Works had so far constructed and delivered 165 ships, out of which 32 ships were delivered to foreign customers, including China, Iran, Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia. The Minister said that KSEW earned foreign exchange worth Rs. 72,07,49,586 from 1969-70 to 1981-82. [Excerpt] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 10]

TANKER FLEET FIGURES--Replying to another question, Mr Baluch informed the House that the National Tanker Company (NTC) had been established in June 1981 with the basic objective of developing a national tanker fleet to transport petroleum, oil and its byproducts. The company had an authorized capital of Rs. 100 million. The Minister said the NTC acquired a tanker, named MT Jhat in 1982, which had regularly been lifting crude oil from the Persian Gulf ports for Karachi. [Excerpt] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 10]

LOW-COST EMPLOYEES' HOUSING--The Federal Government proposes to build 1,440 low-cost flats for its employees in various parts of the country. These flats will be built in Karachi, Hyderabad, Quetta, Peshawar and at other places. The Government has asked the House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) to prepare a scheme and acquire land for the purpose. Government employees in the salary group ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 1000 and those drawing a salary of Rs 1000 a month will be provided flats. Two types of flats (ground plus first floor) having a covered area of 462 square feet and 578 square feet at an estimated cost of Rs 68,000 and Rs 76,000, respectively, are proposed to be built. HBFC is studying the mode of payment. Similar flats will be built at Islamabad, Lahore, Faisalabad and Multan. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 9]

JUP, PML DISCUSS ISSUES--A joint committee meeting of the defunct JUP and PML held in Karachi yesterday discussed major national issues, including the proposed round table conference of politicians. The meeting was attended among others by Maulana Shah Ahmed Noorani, Maulana Abdul Sattar Khan Niazi, Pir Syed Barkat Ahmed Shah and Prof. Shah Faridul Haq. Those who attended the meeting from the defunct Pakistan Muslim League (Pagaro Group) included S. M. Zafar, Kunwar Outubuddin, Mohammad Khan Juncjo and Mr. Hassan A. Shaikh.--PPI. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 9]

INDIAN FILMS ISSUE--Islamabad, Oct 11: The Federal Minister for Culture, Mr Niaz Mohammad Arbab, today said the proposal for importing Indian films to Pakistan is likely to be referred to the Cabinet. In an interview to DAWN he said when Pakistan was seeking a no war pact with India, it would not oppose a cultural pact if India so desired. He however described the present atmosphere in the country not conducive for any such move. The issue was discussed with the Indian Ambassador to Pakistan who met him recently, he pointed out. The import of Indian films, he said, was vehemently opposed by eminent Pakistani film personalities who called on President Zia-ul-Haq and urged him to save Pakistan film industry by imposing a ban on the proposed Indian films exhibition here. The Minister said, on the other hand, a group of film distributors has supported the move. Replying to a question, he said NAFDEC has not been able to determine the quality of films for Pakistani cinemagoers. Most of the foreign films were filled with violence and horror which could not thrill the audience here, he said. [By Mujtaba Akhtar] [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Oct 82 p 9]

EXPORTS DURING SEPTEMBER REPORTED--Pakistan's total exports during September 1982 amounted to Rs. 1962.1 million showing an increase of 4.4 percent over the exports during August 1982 (Rs. 1,879.8 million) and of 0.3 percent compared to September 1981 (Rs. 1955.3 million) respectively, according to Federal Bureau of Statistics. Imports into Pakistan during September amounted to Rs. 3,703.5 million (provisional) which was lower by 31.5 percent compared to import of Rs. 5,408.8 million (provisional) during August 1982 and by 28.8 percent compared to import of Rs. 5,197.5 million in August 1981. Main items of export during September 1982 were cotton fabrics (Rs. 212.0 million), cotton yarn (Rs. 190.9 million), petroleum products (Rs. 140.4 million), raw cotton (Rs. 134.5 million), rice (Rs. 113.5 million), fish and fish preparation (Rs. 109.7 million), carpets and carpeting (Rs. 100.5 million), ready-made garments (Rs. 73.4 million) and leather (Rs. 65.9 million). Of the main item imports, crude oil accounts for Rs. 398.0 million, edible oil Rs. 338.6 million, fertilizer Rs. 145.6 million and wheat Rs. 72.1 million during September 1982.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Oct 82 p 10]

ROUND TABLE--ZIA INVITED--Several political leaders have expressed surprise at Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani's announcement that President Zia-ul-Haq would be invited to the RTC (round-table conference) proposed to be convened by the defunct JUP to discuss ways and means of holding early general elections. Sardar Sherbaz Khan Mazari, chief of the defunct NDP said his party would not be able to attend the RTC if invitation went to President Zia-ul-Haq. He said this was not mentioned by Maulana Noorani in the talks with any other leaders. Khwaja Khairuddin, speaking on behalf of the MRD and his own faction of the defunct PML expressed similar views and was doubtful if any MRD parties would attend the proposed RTC. Mr Nafis Siddiqi of defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, criticised Maulana Noorani's proposal on similar grounds. It was stated that unless the political leaders had sat together and had themselves devised a strategy the next step should not have been pre-empted. Maulana Noorani could not be contacted to express views on the sharp initial reaction of the opposition leaders. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Oct 82 p 12]

ZIA TO LEAD NAM TEAM--President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq will lead the Pakistan delegation to the 7th non-aligned conference which will begin in New Delhi from March 7. According to Voice of America broadcast, the official sources in Islamabad confirmed that President Zia-ul-Haq will lead the Pakistan delegation. Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministers of the non-aligned conference have agreed to an Indian proposal to hold the 7th Summit in New Delhi from March 7 to March 11. The Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned conference has directed all the member states to cooperate with the host country and the current Chairman for holding conference in New Delhi. The Foreign Ministers and other high officials of the member countries will meet in the first week of March to prepare the agenda for the NAM Summit. The Foreign Ministers of the NAM thanked Mrs Indira Gandhi for agreeing to hold the conference in India.--VOA/AIR [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 82 p 1]

MRD WILL NOT JOIN GOVERNMENT--Khwaja Khairuddin and Mr Mairaj Mohammad Khan, Secretary-General and Joint Secretary, respectively, of MRD in a joint Press statement yesterday denied that MRD would join the proposed national government under the umbrella of Martial Law, and added that "those who are restless to join such government should draw the lesson out of the fate the PNA met by joining the military government. They criticised the politicians "who claim that their inclination to join the Martial Law Government is governed by the desire of holding elections and restoring the 1973 Constitution" and asked if the Government was sincere in holding elections in the near future, then why should it be through a "national government" and not otherwise. Commenting on the round-table conference proposal, they referred to the decision already taken by MRD that none of its components would participate unless invitation was extended to MRD or all the 8 parties comprising MRD, along with the agenda. They also reiterated that MRD would participate in the general election if held under the 1973 Constitution, and rejected elections on proportional representation or non-party basis. They also appealed to people to remain vigilant as "intrigues are being hatched to create obstacles in the restoration of democracy."

NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR--Rawalpindi, Oct 8: The Ambassador-designate of Japan, Mr Chinichi Yanai presented his credentials to the President, Gen. Mohammad Ziaul-Haq at a ceremony at presidency here this evening. Mr. Yanai exchanged views with the President on matters of common interest.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 82 p 8]

CSO: 4200/44

UNIDO WANTS POLL SAFEGUARDS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Oct 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by David C. Borje]

[Text]

THE UNITED Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) asked yesterday for "minimum safeguards" as the condition for its participation in a synchronized election of all national, regional and local officials.

In another development, the Mindanao-based opposition Mindanao Alliance (MA) headed by Muslim Oriental Gov. Homobono Adaza, is heading a move to form a national opposition party based in Mindanao, after the administration's move to allow the accreditation of another party.

The Kilusang Bagong Lipunan is the only accredited political party, having garnered at least 10 percent of the votes cast in the last presidential election as required by the Constitution for such accreditation.

THE UNIDO, an umbrella group of 12 opposition parties, was reacting to President Marcos' statement that he was willing to have his six-year term shortened by three years provided the opposition would participate in the proposed 1984 election.

The proposal to have the President cut his term in 1984 to stake his position in an election is not a Unido idea. This option was

one of several variations being tossed around in the Batasan by assemblymen, including some from the ruling KBL.

UNIDO public information officer Antonio Alano said the minimum safeguards are: 1) reorganization of the Commission on Elections, 2) purging the voters' list of fictitious voters, 3) grant to the opposition of equal time and space in the mass media, and 4) longer period of election campaign.

Alano said the ground rules must be laid down first by the ruling party before the UNIDO could adopt a definite stand on the various options for synchronized elections.

THE OPTIONS will be the subject of public hearings in major cities, starting on Oct. 23 in Baguio City, to be conducted by the Batasan committee on revision of laws and codes, and constitutional amendments headed by Political Affairs Minister Leonardo B. Perez.

Perez said the options include the simultaneous election of the President, Vice President (if such office is created), members of the regular National Assembly and all local officials in 1984; the election of the assembly (Batasan) members

and local officials in 1984; the election of the President and local officials in 1987; and the election of all national and local officials as scheduled: Batasan members in 1984, local officials (four-year term) in 1986; and President in 1987.

The UNIDO said a panel of lawyers headed by former Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, chairman of the UNIDO council of leaders, is now studying the various options and other political issues, and "will soon announce its stand."

BATASAN majority and minority members have proposed that the President cut short his term by three years and the local officials by two years to synchronize all national and local elections in 1984, when the Batasan members are to be elected.

Any of the options, except the scheduled elections for the Batasan members, local officials and the President, requires an amendment of the election laws and the Constitution.

Aside from the options, the Batasan public hearings will also tackle the bills on turncoatism, accreditation of a second national political party (the KBL is already accredited), apportionment of additional Batasan seats and the proposed Election Code of 1983.

ZAMBOANGA CITY - Misamis Oriental Gov. Homobono Adaza is spearheading a move to form a national opposition party based in Mindanao.

Adaza, chairman of the opposition Mindanao Alliance (MA), said he is rallying opposition leaders in Mindanao following the administration's move to allow the accreditation of a national opposition party.

In an informal meeting with newsmen at a luncheon Friday at City Mayor Cesar Climaco's residence, Adaza said the Concerned Citizens Aggrupation (CCA) and the Mindanao Alliance would be the nucleus of the national opposition party.

ADAZA SAID there are excellent chances for an opposition party to eventually dislodge the present administration from power through the electoral process.

The Misamis Oriental governor said opposition stalwarts in Mindanao will meet in Zamboanga City sometime in December to finalize plans for future participation in political exercises.

Adaza said that from Zamboanga City he would proceed to Pagadian City and Iligan City to confer with other opposition leaders.

Adaza was in Zamboanga City on invitation of Climaco to speak at a symposium on the coconut industry sponsored by the city government. (PNA)

CSO: 4200/68

PHILIPPINES

CARTOON SCORES PM ON TAXES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Oct 82 p 4

[Text]



CSO: 4200/67

PHILIPPINES

CARTOON SHOWS PM INSENSITIVE TO POOR

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 p 4

[Text]



CSO: 4200/67

DISSIDENT KILLER SQUADS REPORTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 15 Oct 82 pp 1, 6

[Text]

DISSIDENTS have activated urban liquidation squads to eliminate comrades who had turned against their movement, intelligence reports revealed yesterday.

The squads have reportedly been sent to strike at targets in Metro Manila supported by surveillance groups.

Military authorities said they had tightened security on those arrested and detained on charges of conspiracy to commit rebellion.

The death squads were reported to have been furnished a new death list on instruction of Rodolfo Salas, the new chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines who carries a P250,000 price on his head, the biggest in the government's order of battle for wanted dissidents.

THE ACTIVATION of the urban assassination teams was confirmed by the ambush-slaying of Jaime Bernal in broad daylight in Meycauayan, Bulacan, the other day by two or three heavily armed men.

Bernal, a co-accused of captured dissident leader Horacio "Boy" Morales in a rebellion case, was killed three days after submitting a manifesto to the court to testify for the government.

Also killed with Bernal was one of his military escorts, identified as Constable Salvador Somera.

Military lawyers revealed that Bernal gave the most damaging statement against Morales during investigation.

BEFORE his arrest, Bernal was operations manager of a leather products processing firm in Bulacan.

After lengthy negotiations, Bernal was convinced by the group of Morales to use his (Bernal's) outfit in the smuggling of guns from the Middle East into the country, the military said.

Investigation indicated that the deal resulted in the entry of high-powered foreign-made guns through Mindanao. The shipment reportedly consisted of from 10 to 15 boxes of firearms procured from the Middle East.

The firearms and shipment reportedly cost about \$50,000 (roughly P400,000).

BERNAL had at first refused to mix the shipment with his importation of rawhides from the Middle East but was prevailed upon when told that the crates containing the guns would be transferred to pumpboats before reaching Philippine waters in Mindanao.

The boxes containing the guns reportedly measured about 12 x 24 x 5 inches which were suspected to have also contained ammunition.

The arms were reportedly shipped from the Middle East via Yokohama, Japan, before being dropped somewhere in the waters off Mindanao.

The government had previously allowed Bernal to be placed under house arrest because of poor health. Half of his body was paralyzed when he suffered a stroke last December.

His family received death threats immediately after he decided to turn state witness in the case against Morales.

CSO: 4200/67

PHILIPPINES

REBEL PRIESTS MARRY 'AMAZONS'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Oct 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by Mel Parale]

[Text] Dissidents have launched a nationwide plan to infiltrate church ranks to beef up their movement to overthrow the government, the military said yesterday.

Intelligence officials supported this assessment with documents which they said showed that some priests who have been won over by dissidents have been married to rebel amazons.

One of them was Fr. Nicanor Ruiz, a former Bohol parish priest, who was married to a rebel amazon identified as Paterna Merlas, according to information gathered by intelligence operatives.

Ruiz, who leads a rebel group operating in Samar, was wounded in a clash with government troops but was able to escape.

Intelligence officers did not mention who officiated in the wedding of Ruiz and Merlas but indicated he was a ranking NPA leader in the region.

EASCOM military authorities discussed the implications of the rebel infiltration of church ranks in a briefing for Maj Gen Josephus Q. Ramas, army commanding general, during a field inspection of army commands in the Visayas over the weekend.

Brig Gen Salvador Mison, Eascom commander, informed Ramas that rebellion charges have been prepared for filing against Fr Edgar Kangleon, director of the Social Action Center in Catbalogan, Samar, who was arrested last week and detained at the Eascom headquarters.

Lt Col Hernani Figueroa, Eascom chief intelligence officer, disclosed that another priest, Fr Josefino Gonzales, parish priest of Lope de Vega, Northern Samar, has been included in the government's wanted list.

Gonzales, executive secretary of the Catbalogan social action center raided by government agents recently, is covered by a presidential commitment order based on documents seized during the raid, Figueroa said.

Gonzales earlier denied any link with the dissident movement.

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile had earlier disclosed that there are about 10 priests and some nuns active in anti-government activities.

Two of them are in Cagayan Valley, two in Mountain Province and the others in Davao and some Visayas provinces, he said.

He said the military is not running after priests "if they are really serving our people, but if they are helping the communists and they are operating with communists, that's a different story."

CSO: 4200/68

REBELS OFFER PRIZES TO ASSASSINS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by Mel Parale]

[Text]

TACLOBAN, Leyte, Oct 16 - Rebel central commands in the country have set up their own rewards to comrades who kill ranking military men marked for liquidation, military authorities revealed yesterday.

Like their counterparts in the government's order of battle, the price for those in the rebels' death list is determined by the degree of damage they have inflicted on the rebel movement.

The existence of the dissidents' reward system surfaced during a briefing of regional intelligence officers for Maj. Gen. Josephus Q. Rama, army commanding general, who came here for the opening of a seminar-workshop on small unit operation for field commanders.

LT. COL. Hernani Figueroa, Eascom chief intelligence officer, cited information they have gathered indicating that the dissident hierarchy set up its own reward system because of the reverses rebel elements have suffered lately in the government's counter-insurgency offensive.

Among the top dissident leaders who have fallen were Edgar Jopson, chairman of the Mindanao CPP central committee; and Fr. Zacarias Agatep, leader of a rebel group operating in Northern Luzon. Jopson had a P125,000 price on his head while Agatep had P130,000. They were killed in separate government operations in Davao and Ilocos Sur.

INTELLIGENCE operatives said, however, that the reward offered by rebel commands to comrades who could eliminate specific targets is only about one-third of its government counterpart.

Military authorities confirmed that the rebels have financial supporters. Their sources were not divulged.

This explains, they said, why the rebel commands can afford not only to offer rewards to liquidation squads but also to give salaries to armed regulars and support groups.

Two recruits of the underground movement arrested recently have admitted during investigation that

they each received P200 monthly salary.

THE MILITARY believes that the suspected rebels who ambushed and killed Fausto Bernal, a co-accused of CPP leader Horacio "Boy" Morales in a rebellion charge, last Monday in Bulacan acted because of the rebels' reward system.

Bernal was believed to have been included in the rebels' death list after he submitted a manifesto to testify for the government in the prosecution of Morales' case.

In his keynote address, Ramas told participants in the anti-insurgent workshop that from now on, field commanders, any of whose men ~~were~~ killed or wounded in an ambush, will be investigated for possible court martial.

Ramas felt that ambushes of soldiers by rebels could be caused either by the laxity, ignorance or "stupidity" of commanders concerned.

CSO: 4200/67

NPA KILLS 8 IN MINDANAO

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Oct 82 pp 1, 6

[Text]

PAGADIAN CITY, Oct. 16 — The New People's Army killed a Zamboanga del Sur police station commander, two North Cotabato barangay captains, and five other persons in South Cotabato over the past three days.

Shot dead yesterday was San Pablo police station commander Lt. Edilberto Navarro. He was riding home from Pagadian city when he was gunned down in barangay Guling, Dumanao town.

In North Cotabato, rebels the other day ambushed and killed Leopoldo Pancho, barrio captain of Esperanza, Tulunan, his wife, and his driver while they were riding home from the pollination

Two hours later, barrio captain Ernesto Ortiz of Cajelo, Tulunan, was liquidated in his house. Two of his children were seriously wounded.

Slain in South Cotabato were Dian Drahim, Pantos Kassim, and Giron Ismael. They were harvesting palay in barangay Banaag, Maasin, when the rebels attacked them. (T. Pe. Rimando)

BAGUIO CITY, Oct. 16 — Conflicting reports surfaced here yesterday over the death of rebel priest, Fr. Zacarias Agatep, and his political officer, Moroy Espiritu, last Monday.

Some residents of Saisa-de, Davao Sur, reported that the two were not killed in an encounter with Constabulary soldiers but shot by a disgruntled New

People's Army (NPA) member.

Military authorities, on the other hand, said that the assailant was a PC trooper who had infiltrated Agatep's group and stayed with them for a long time.

The undercover agent was reportedly one of four persons captured after the killing of the priest and Espiritu.

Meanwhile, the slain priest was given full religious honors in a necrolitical mass celebrated Wednesday in Narvacan, Davao Sur.

The town's parish priest called upon the faithful to give due respect to the man for dying for his conviction.

Agatep was cited for sacrificing his life for the peasants' cause. His body will be transferred to his hometown in Santo Domingo for interment 15 Chammag.

CSO: 4200/68

LANDLESS FARMERS TO BENEFIT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 p 14

[Article by Gene Taduran]

[Text]

THOUSANDS of kaingineros and landless farmers throughout the country stand to benefit under the latest scheme of the government's forest development program.

The terms under the Integrated Social Forestry Program (Profem II) are so liberal that a farmer can gather the products and subsequent produce of seven hectares of woodland in exchange for his conservation efforts.

Profem II is embodied in Letter of Instruction 1260 which was signed last July 27. Its implementing rules were approved on Oct. 7.

Under the program, a farmer participant is awarded the stewardship of not more than seven hectares of forest land for a period of 25 years. The contract is renewable for another 25 years.

QUALIFIED to participate in the program are forest occupants, deserving landless farmers, tillers and rural workers who are dependent on public forest for their livelihood.

Absentee claimants, landlords and speculators are disqualified.

The guidelines provide that no fee for the use of allocated land shall be charged during the first five years of stewardship. An annual fee of not more than P10, however, shall be charged per hectare thereafter.

Aside from the right to the products of the land, a farmer can also mortgage or assign their land to any licensed financial institution as collateral for loans.

TECHNICAL as well as material assistance shall likewise be extended to him during the first years of occupancy.

Natural Resources Minister Teodoro Q. Pena said in case an awardee dies or is incapacitated before the term of stewardship expires, the right to the land is passed on to his next of kin. These close relatives shall also have priority in the award of land from a farmer who has cultivated more than seven hectares. (Gene Taduran)

CONTINUED PROBLEMS IN LAND REFORM

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 p 14

[Article by Criselda Cerdona]

[Text]

AGRARIAN reform implementation in the country, after ten years, is still not without hitches.

This was recognized recently by officials of the Ministry of Agrarian Reform in a seminar-workshop assessing land reform.

MAR officials said that there are "reversals" in the land transfer process, which ideally should lead to the issuance of emancipation patent to the farmer.

SUCH REVERSALS, or "miss-hits" include ejection of tenants.

Revocation of certificates of land transfer, conversion of tilled land for non-agricultural uses, and even evasion by landowners of Presidential Decree No. 27 which sets that their tenants can become owners of the

land they work on.

The miss-hits are caused by the people who implement the program, the officials said. It is impossible for an agrarian reform program to be perfect, but "a faithful implementation of established policies" can be attempted, they added.

THEY thus proposed that although the policies on agrarian reform are comprehensive and clear, and a machinery for its implementation does exist, the following steps should be undertaken to avoid reversals:

- Application of legal sanctions on violators of the program.
- Reduction of the bureaucratic red tape that delays program implementation.

• Clarification and simplification of existing policies.

• Deliberate and systematic information drive about the program for courts, local officials, the police, and the military.

• Internalization by MAR personnel of the program to remove their biases and prejudices.

MEANWHILE, the plight of the farmers will be discussed further on Tuesday, when the farmers meet with officials of different government agencies concerned with agrarian reform.

The agencies include: Ministry of Agriculture, National Food Authority, Land Bank of the Philippines, Bureau of Lands, Philippine Crop Insurance Cooperation, and Technical Board on Agricultural Credit.

CSO: 4200/67

AGRARIAN REFORM MINISTER LAUDS LAND REFORM

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 p 14

[Text]

HAD President Marcos not declared martial law and had he not launched a vigorous agrarian reform program, where would the country be today?

This question was posed by Agrarian Reform Minister Conrado F. Estrella to participants in the seminar workshop conducted to review agrarian reform after ten years of implementation at the University of the Philippines at Los Banos Friday.

Estrella, who was guest speaker at the closing ceremonies of the seminar, said that the situation today might have been difficult.

He said that the armed forces might have its arms full with peasant rebellion and the possibility of a takeover by subversives would not be remote.

THE AGRARIAN reform chief said that former Huk Supremo Luis Taruc, who was present at the seminar along with other farmer leaders, landowners, the religious and the

academe, "would have gone back to the mountains."

Estrella recalled that the Huks led by Taruc "merely demanded the lowering of land rentals but President Marcos gave them more than that."

When he issued PD 27, better known as the Tenant Emancipation Decree, he not only secured their tenure but gave them the land."

The seminar, conducted by the Agrarian Reform Institute Advisory Council (ARIAC), also focused its deliberations on the program thrusts of agrarian reform in the coming years including its linkage with the national livelihood program or KKK.

THE SEMINAR was conducted as part of the activities to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the signing of P.D. 27 on Oct. 21, 1972.

Earlier, the President signed Proclamation No. 2234 declaring October 21-27 as agrarian reform week.

INCREASE IN COAST GUARD DISTRICTS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Oct 82 p 40

[Text]

Gen Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, approved in principle yesterday a plan to increase the operational districts of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) from four to eight.

Ver directed Commodore Brillante Ochoa, coast guard commandant, to conduct a feasible study on the proposal in a speech marking the 81st anniversary of the Philippine Coast Guard.

He said that while the land-based Philippine Constabulary has 13 regional commands, "ironically its counterpart at sea — the Philippine Coast Guard

has only four operational districts."

Presently, there are only four PCG districts located in Manila, Cebu, Palawan, and Zamboanga city.

"This seeming unbalanced operational make up of our military operation and the importance should challenge our coast guard and navy planners to submit to me now a feasible proposal for consideration of higher authorities," he said.

Ver said that trade and commerce rely heavily on sea transport to sustain the country's economic growth.

CSO: 4200/68

COAL THERMAL PLANT CONSTRUCTION PLANNED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Oct 82 p 26

[Text]

The British consultant firm Dames and Moore Company has completed its feasibility study on the P12 billion coal thermal plant in Isabela and plans are now afoot for the construction of the power plant which will supplement the requirements of the Luzon grid.

Bureau of Energy Development (BED) director, Alfonso de la Paz disclosed that the 300-megawatt plant is now up for construction although its timetable is still being assessed.

The BED official said the coal reserves of Isabela have been proven to be adequate to power the coal thermal plant as well as justify its construction.

De la Paz said it is already a matter of

timing the construction of the power plant since the government has a number of ongoing and planned project to boost the Luzon grid supply.

At the moment, the National Power Corporation is still putting up the first coal thermal plant in Batangas with an equal megawatt capacity.

The Batangas power plant will get its supply requirement from the Semirara Coal Corporation which is now under the wings of the National Development Company (NDC).

The Isabela plant, on the other hand, will have to use the lignite reserves found in the province since the type of coal has no other use except for power purposes.

According to de la

Paz, the government has to put up the power plant since the reserves have no other commercial use. Moreover, other power plants cannot utilize Isabela's coal due to transportation costs.

Construction of the Isabela plant is being timed since NPC has to construct first the submarine cable linking Leyte's geothermal reserves to the Luzon grid.

The P2.6 billion submarine cable project is being given priority since Leyte's reserves have been found to be large. Moreover, financing for the project is being secured from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) as well as from the third package of the structural adjustment loan from the World Bank.

UNREPENTANT COLUMNIST ARLENE BABST RETURNS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Oct 82 p 6

[Text]

Uh, uh, uh, uh,
stavin' alive, stavin' alive!
Uh, uh, uh, uh,
stavin' alive-hahahah!"

— "Staying Alive," The Beegees
in
Saturday Night Fever

SUNDAY morning recuperation.

Messages in near morse code; morose; yeah, morose to have to code it at all. But the name of the game is Staying Alive, the new Battle Hymn of the (Fourth) Republic.



Since there aren't any ready-made revolutions to join, and martyrdom being so dreadfully, unfashionably boring already, the only revenge on any obstacle to staying alive is simply staying alive, staying around, staying, because 1) everyone has a right to be here; 2) you don't commit hara-kiri if you're not Japanese (and a full-fledged samurai at that); 3) it's your (my) country as much as theirs; 4) it's your career same as if you trained eleven years to be a surgeon; 5) it's a long haul, 6) slaves must use the

tools of their masters; 7) Renato Constantino says you make history by engaging in it in whatever karmic way decreed for each one from birth. Let's stop at seven good reasons. The rest is karma.

What does a writer do when she/he cannot write?

She reads. She reads about how much better off we Filipinos are than Uganda, Bangladesh, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Poland, Iran, the Soviet Union, China, but how much more controlled we are than the United States, Western Europe, Japan, Australia, Thailand.

She reads about government officials in other countries who have to resign when they're caught bringing in a television set through non-customs channels, and about US First Ladies who get widely criticized for the "wild extravagance of a few designer clothes and some White House china."

And when that kind of reading depresses the stalled (but only temporarily) writer, she can always turn to C.P. Cavafy, that Greek poet much loved by economics students at Harvard University, for some reason:

The First Step
by C.P. Cavafy

The young poet Eumenes complained one day to Theocritus: "I have been writing for two years now and I have done only one idyll. It is my only finished work. Alas, it is steep, I see it, the stairway of Poetry is so steep; and from the first step where now I stand,

poor me, I shall never ascend." "These words," Theocritus said, are unbecoming and blasphemous. And if you are on the first step, you ought to be proud and pleased. Coming as far as this is not little; what you have achieved is great glory. For even this first step is far distant from the common herd. To set your foot upon this step You must rightfully be a citizen of the city of ideas.

And in that city it is hard and rare to be naturalized. In her market place you find Law-makers whom no adventurer can dupe. Coming as far as this is not little; what you have achieved is great glory."

You know, of course, that even poetry is written in Malacafang. On that absurdly cryptic and unfair note, I bid you a happy Sunday and I sincerely hope to be with you again on Wednesday, poetry and the weather permitting.

CSO: 4200/68

COMMANDERS WARNED ON CARELESS TACTICS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Oct 82 pp 1, 9

[Article by Jose De Vera Jr]

[Text]

Maj. Gen. Josephus Q. Ramas, Army commanding general, told 13 field-commanders in Tacloban city that he will have them court-martialed for ambushes that result in the killing or wounding of their men.

The commanders of two divisions, seven infantry battalions, two engineering battalions, and two brigades converged in Tacloban city for a seminar workshop on small unit operations.

The Army chief said that not only the commanders, but also their intelligence and operations officers and the surviving members of the ambushed unit, would be court martialed if findings of investigators show that the ambush was due to negligence, laxity, or stupidity of the men.

The commanders and their intelligence and operations officers, Ramas said, will be dealt with severely under the doctrine of command responsibility.

Ramas said that the commanders of the four major services and of the general military council, in a meeting led by Gen. Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, it was decided that the policy of holding commanders responsible for breakdowns of discipline be strictly enforced.

He said members of the council and the commanders of the four major services went over investigation reports of ambushes and found that 83 to 95 per cent of them were due to security violations, and laxity, negligence, and stupidity of commanders and their intelligence and operations officers.

CSC: 4100/68

NIDO OIL FLOW STABILIZES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Oct 82 p 10

[Text]

Production at the Nido complex continued to baffle the local oil exploration industry as the country's first producing oilfield showed little signs of declining output, contrary to earlier reports.

Nido's four producing wells have averaged a combined 4,500 barrels per day during the third quarter of the year from a measly 2,000 barrels a day early this year.

Bureau of Energy Development Director Wenceslao de la Paz said Nido's stabilized flow rate indicated the oilfield are still capable of producing oil in commercial quantities and has set aside, at least for the moment, the uncertainty over the field's lifespan.

At any rate, de la Paz said Orell Company of Canada was still pursuing its study concerning the possible enhancement of oil recovery at the Nido complex which have been plagued by heavy

water incursions.

Consultants earlier tapped by the Cities Service consortium suggested the drilling of a fill-in well in the area to maximize the oilfield's output.

Filipino partners in the consortium, particularly Oriental Petroleum and Minerals Corporation, supported the recommendation but Cities Service was skeptical.

The decision of the Houston-based oil firm left the fate of Nido oilfield hanging until Orell's offer came.

Cities Service last year hinted it would abandon Nido's operations should the field prove uneconomical. The company did not elaborate on the statement which fueled speculations that it was abandoning the Nido shortly.

However, Nido's production has stabilized since the prompting Cities Service to continue the oilfield's operations.

CCO 4200/68

PHILIPPINES

GALOC OIL DEVELOPMENT IN 1983

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Oct 82 p 26

[Text] The twin Galoc structures are set for development next year.

Highly placed industry sources disclosed yesterday that the management committee of the Cities Service consortium decided to slate Galoc's development next year during a recent meeting in Houston, Texas.

Galoc-1 and South Galoc yielded promising oil and gas shows last year which prompted the consortium to take a close look at the structures.

The twin discoveries became significant after the recorded finds were made on sandstone structures which altered the previous course of oil exploration in the country.

An earlier assessment on the chances for Galoc's development show that the consortium would spend around \$947 million to commercially develop the area since it is found in areas with depth of more than 1,100 feet.

Galoc's development, the sources said, would require the drilling of some 50 production wells to fully exploit the potential of the structures.

Oil in sandstone structures also require a different technology where the trapped hydrocarbon has to be extracted in deepwaters.

The discoveries at Galoc were the first to be made on sandstone structures unlike before when oil strikes in the country were limited to limestone formations.

Under the revised incentive system in oil exploration, the consortium is expected to reduce its development costs on Galoc.

CSO: 4200/68

PHILIPPINES

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND LOANS APPROVED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 p 16

(Text)

THE Philippines has been assured of a \$340 million standby credit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help finance the expected deficit in the balance of payments (BOP) this year.

The Central Bank announced yesterday that Dr. Tun Thin, director of the Asian department of the IMF, was in town last week to discuss the major elements of the on-going standby negotiations with the Fund.

According to the CB, agreement was reached on the most important issues involving the finalization of the new standby program in a meeting among the IMF officials with President Marcos, Prime Minister Cesar Virata, CB, Gov. Jaime C. Laya and Budget Minister Manuel Alba.

An IMF mission is expected to come here by early November to conclude the program negotiations, the CB said.

THE country is actually seeking \$510 million worth of financing from the IMF consisting of proposed drawings under the standby facility and about \$170 million under the compensatory financing program.

In addition, negotiations with the World Bank on the second structural adjustment loan amounting to about P250 million are expected to be finalized

With the total amount of \$760 million from the IMF and the World Bank, the country will have sufficient funds to help cushion the impact of a BOP deficit that is estimated to reach at least \$600 million.

The funds will also be used to pay the country's short-term external debt.

The CB said the most significant aspect of the successful negotiations of the IMF standby is the support gained from the international community for the policies the government has been following, on its own initiative, regarding the government budget, external debt management, exchange rate, credit and interest rates, industry and energy.

The measures are being implemented to strengthen the Philippine economy and ensure its viability even in the face of unfavorable international conditions, the CB added.

It is expected that as the policies bear fruitful results and as the world economy finally starts to move up, there will be an acceleration in growth and an improvement of the country's balance of payments in the near future, the CB said in a press statement.

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

FRG APPROVES AID--Bonn, October 16--West Germany will concentrate its aid to the Philippines in future on underdeveloped agricultural areas, Bonn development aid minister Juergen Warnke said. Warnke's ministry said he backed up his pledge in talks with Minister Placido Mapa, Jr. by announcing an outright gift of \$18 million marks (about \$7.2 million) marks and credits of 25 million marks (about \$10 million). The aid would be devoted to a number of projects on smaller Philippine islands whose development lagged far behind the national agricultural average, the ministry said. Targets included improvements to drinking water supplies, the creation of electrical grids, furthering cotton production and a program for cultivating seed potatoes. (Reuter). [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Oct 82 p 16]

CSO: 4200/67

TRADE DATA WITH INDOCHINA REPORTED, THAILAND SAID TO BE DISADVANTAGED

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 2 Sep 82 pp 33, 34

Text] At present, commercial trade between Thailand and Indochina has declined to its lowest limits, just as political relations have. Be that as it may, quite truthfully speaking, the Indochinese states have both the need and the desire to increase trade with Thailand.

Subsequent to the Communist victories and occupation in the three Indochinese states of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam, the need for consumer goods and commodities increased because of the deprivation and injury caused by the war. Even though they have received humanitarian aid from foreign organizations, past associations and close proximity have probably given these three countries the desire to buy goods from Thailand, as they did before.

The problem, and obstacle, to trade with these states is that they have the desire for trade, but not the money. Especially Laos, which has persistently asked to grant them long term credits in the purchase of goods from Thailand. We gently declined to do so because of a lack of confidence in a "fly now, pay later" system for 'little brother' Laos. That itself is because our own Thai export merchants dare not risk it themselves without having the liability underwritten by the Bank of Thailand.

Besides that, border conflicts persist. This has reduced the extent of trade between Thailand and the Indochinese states. [This happened] when Thai river patrol boats were fired upon by the Lao, or the clashes along border areas with Kampuchea, where ordnance fell into Thai territory, causing injuries, deaths and material loss to Thai subjects as well as the Non Mak Mun incursion until finally the [Thai] Military stepped in to solve the problem and set up border trade controls in order to deny passage of strategic material and food to "those with ill intent" towards our nation. This has caused the trade between Thailand and the Indochinese nations, which was already at a greatly reduced level, to be even further reduced. In 1981, Thai trade with the Indochinese states was officially recorded at a total value of 723.3 million baht, or only about 0.23 percent of the total Thai foreign trade. That was reduced from 1980, in which trade amounted to 1,883.8 million baht, or about 0.6 percent of our total foreign trade.

In the period 1977-1980, the level of trade between the Thai and the Lao People's Democratic Republic has been on a constantly increasing curve averaging a

42 percent gain over 1980. But then, when it came to this past year, 1981, the level of trade diminished from 947.7 million baht to only 603.5 million baht, or a reduction of about 36.3 percent. As for trade with Democratic Kampuchea, there is very little certainty, but it did increase in 1979 and 1980; however, in 1981, trade with this country diminished to 101.8 million baht from trade the prior year, reaching 659.1 million baht. This was a decrease of about 84.6 percent.

As for that country which is the ringleader of the Indochinese states, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, itself, in the period 1977-1981, trade with Thailand did not amount to much. However, it was increasing from 1977-1979, and then slowed in 1980 and again last year, as well. The Department of Business Economics reports that, last year, the two countries had a value of trade between them of only 18 million baht, compared with the year before that, in which there was some 270.0 million baht; a decrease of 93.5 percent. Export trade to Laos, which at one time had increased at an average annual rate of 48 percent in the last five years, was reduced in 1981; wherein exports amounted to only 586 million baht; a reduction from the year before of some 324.5 million baht. Of these exports, approximately 80 percent were manufactured products, e.g., sewing thread, strong flour, sweetened condensed milk, gunny sacks, wheat flour, sewing machines, raw sugar and milled rice. On the Democratic Kampuchea side, in which, again, there is no certainty about trade, in 1981 we exported a total of 101.8 million baht, a reduction from the previous year, which totalled 557.5 million baht. The primary exports were unhusked white rice, unhusked glutinous rice, vegetable seeds and hand tools. As for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, exports began to decline in 1980, and reached their lowest point last year. Exports then amounted to only 7.3 million baht, compared to the year previous to that in which exports totalled 254.1 million baht, a decrease of 96.3 percent.

The reason that exports to the Indochinese states have diminished in this way is that we have certain strategic exports that have been listed as strategic materials such as milled rice, broken rice and paper, etc. The same goes for imports received from the Indochinese states. In any year in which there were favorable political conditions, and in which the Indochinese states purchased significant amounts of goods from Thailand, Thailand would likewise make significant purchases from them. Or sometimes we felt obligated to buy in order to maintain friendly relations, or to establish a favorable trade position with these nations, which would, in the end, encourage purchases from us. However, imports from Laos have diminished since 1979. Last year when we imported only 17.3 million baht in goods, compared with 37.2 million baht in the year before. Of goods Thailand has imported from Laos, the great majority, or 90 percent, have been raw materials and semi-finished goods such as Xylia Kerrii, Makha wood, Prafa wood, jarul wood, buffalo rawhide, benzoin resin, woven wicker-work, animal bone and horns.

With respect to Kampuchea, in 1977, Thailand imported the most it has in the last 5 years, with a value of 15.9 million baht. Ordinarily, Thailand imports only a nominal amount of Kampuchean goods, or nothing at all in some years. Thailand had only 200,000 baht in Kampuchean imports, versus only 10,000 baht in 1980. There was only one item imported to Thailand from Kampuchea last year; an item semi-precious gems.

In the case of Vietnam, it is the nation from which Thailand imports coal more than anything else. Last year, a total value of 8.05 million baht worth of it was imported, or about 95 percent of the imports from Vietnam.

Those who manage our security and military consider trading with the Indochinese states, especially in the matter of exports, as being the same as giving a poisonous snake the power to return and destroy Thailand in the future. On the other hand large and small economists and exporters believe that even if Thailand were to prohibit or restrict exports to these countries, it would have no real effect, since even our ASEAN allies such as Singapore will undoubtedly perform the service of good middlemen in buying Thai wares for transhipment to the Indochinese states.

Because of that, the established measures to inhibit trade other than allowing neighboring countries to take advantage of conditions, have only served to [hurt] export businesses and industries especially now that our economy is hurting under conditions of oversupply. Last year, Thailand had a total balance of trade surplus with the three Indochinese states of 670.9 million baht, a reduction from the former surplus of 1,764.5 million baht in the previous year. Last year, Thailand had a balance of trade surplus with Laos of 568.5 million baht, compared with 873.3 million baht in the previous year. Kampuchea was 1.4 million baht, compared to 659.1 million; with Vietnam, we had 1 million baht when it had been 232.2 million baht. Therefore, in 1982, it is believed that trade with the Indochinese states will diminish even further than last year because of the trade controls established in Thailand's political policies, which, all things taken into account, completely undermines trade with the Indochinese states.

Although trade with the Indochinese states has been reduced, a part of it will appear in the Thai-Singaporean balance of trade, as well as with our ASEAN friends, and even in the balance of trade between Thailand and Soviet Russia, since the "big-shot" is buying goods from Thailand to send as aid to all of these countries.

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PLO REPRESENTATION CONTROVERSY DISCUSSED

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 5 Sep 82 pp 4, 5

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MFA] is considering the pros and cons of the request to establish an office in Thailand by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). This will be dependent upon assessments made as to the primary interests of the nation, to determine if the PLO will receive authorization.

Request by the PLO

A representative from the PLO, Mr 'Ali Fayyad, has been on a tour of ASEAN, including Thailand, since the middle of last month. According to him, his objective is to grant interviews with many newspapers in order to explain and clarify the situation in Lebanon and to seek a conference concerning relations between the PLO and some ASEAN countries.

Of the five ASEAN countries, the PLO has an embassy in Kuala Lumpur. Two months ago, the PLO Embassy presented its credentials to the Prime Minister of Malaysia. As for Indonesia, there is still no embassy; establishing one is currently under consideration. As for Singapore and the Philippines, they have good relations with the PLO already.

As for Thailand, high level news sources from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs state that the PLO and Thailand have had fairly good relations with each other. Officials from both sides frequently see each other at the United Nations (UN), where the PLO has an observer office.

As for his visit to Thailand this time, news sources state that the PLO representative met with the minister of Foreign Affairs, the undersecretary, the Political Affairs Department's Director-General and the Head of the Islamic Faith in Thailand. The objective was two fold: to clarify the situation in Lebanon and to seek authorization to establish a liaison office in Thailand.

Thailand's Position

So far, Thailand's position on the Middle East problem, a tense area in the world, according to high level news sources from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is that Thailand respects two principles: there will be no support for solving

problems by force, and support will be given for an independent Palestinian state while recognizing Israel's right to exist.

"We accept resolution number 242 of the United Nations," news reports have stated.

This resolution was announced by the UN Security Council on 22 Nov 1967 after the Six Day War in which Israel occupied lands formerly belonging to several Arab states. Its main intent was to call for the withdrawal of Israeli troops and have every side "respect the right of each other's sovereignty and to exist peacefully within recognized boundaries approved by all Middle Eastern Countries." The point of this resolution was to accept Israel's status as a state.

...and we voiced our agreement with the Arab states. The PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinians. This view is universally accepted throughout the world." The news source states that, "We have good relations with Israel and fairly good relations with the PLO."

Currently, the PLO has embassies and liaison offices in 115 locations around the world and still has a UN observer mission. The UN General Assembly itself introduced the resolution.

"[The PLO] has more offices in foreign countries than Thailand does. Thailand has just over 60 embassies in foreign countries, that's all," according to news sources.

National Interest

"At this time, we are in the process of deliberation," said a news source referring to the petition of PLO representatives. "We have responded that we acknowledge this [petition], and will study it further. We must take the time to study both the disadvantages and advantages that would arise...above all, we must keep the best interests of the nation in mind."

News sources record that national interests which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs must take under consideration are many: economic, political, social and security.

"Economically, we can probably see the benefits between Israel and ourselves, and between us and the Arab states. It can be seen from the trade statistics between ourselves and Israel that we have always had a balance of trade deficit with them...Israel hardly buys anything from us, but in the case of the Arabs, aside from our having to buy oil from them, they also buy a great deal from us."

"Politically, wouldn't this cause many countries to be in support and agreement with us wherever we undertook activities at the UN or in international political circles?"

Therefore, our political people are considering the fact that they have 115 liaison offices around the world. As soon as they're a state these will become embassies. Besides this, they're the 94th member of the non-aligned countries,

which is important in international affairs. They also receive support from Muslim countries around the world. If we recognize them, we will also receive this support.

An area of concern is that the PLO liaison office may become a target for those terrorists from countries in opposition. High level news sources in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs speculate that this probably would not be the case.

"Geographically, Thailand is very far away. If they have an office, it will be a small one for handling public relations and information" according to news sources.

Should Not Do Any Harm

"Who would do anything violent in our nation? This is our country. Anyone who would do such a thing must be arrested!", says Mr Uppadit Pacharyankun, a former minister of Foreign Affairs in numerous [cabinets] as he addressed the fears.

"The PLO is not a terrorist organization. The majority of the world does not act toward them in that fashion. If anyone should attempt to do anything to them in our land, they must be arrested." Mr Uppadit remarked, saying "Granting authorization to them is to our advantage. This will pave the way for improving relations with the Arabs. That Israel contests this is to be expected. In the UN, Israel has already been unsuccessful in this matter."

The former Minister of Foreign Affairs stated that granting authorization to the PLO is not "damaging."

"The PLO's problem is a problem of attempting to create their own country, which is justified. If this problem can not be resolved, the Middle East will not have peace. I look at it as a matter of justice. If we seek to promote world peace, we must not consider the PLO a terrorist group, as Israel claims. They are not terrorists; their past methods were used in order to bring world attention to the Palestinian plight."

Mr Wong Phennikorn, a former undersecretary and deputy minister of Foreign Affairs, is of virtually the same opinion.

"I agree. [They] should be allowed to establish [an office]. At the very least, the PLO has worldwide recognition...the UN has invited them in as observers...there is nothing damaging about this," Mr Wong remarked.

Unsettled Problems

One source from the MFA said that the PLO is not asking for any privilege, but because this is a delicate matter it will necessarily take considerable time to think about.

A news source states that at present, the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has entered the first round of deliberations into matters pertaining to this affair, wherein policy makers will weigh the pros and cons, as carefully as possible.

"After that, it will be submitted to the National Security Council for its consideration. Sufficient time must be taken. At this time, it can not be said when deliberations will be completed," the source stated finally.

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ISLAMIC LAW TO BE LEGALIZED IN SOUTH

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 6 Oct 82 p 1

[Text]

THE Cabinet ruled yesterday that Islamic law, which has been strictly followed by Thai Muslims in the South, will be legalized and enforced in the four southern provinces of Yala, Narathiwat, Pattani and Satun.

The decision, made following a proposal by the Justice Ministry, enables Thai Muslims in the four southern provinces to seek judgement for any legal disputes or matters from Muslim judges who base their verdicts on Islamic law.

The Cabinet also instructed the Islamic Committee of Thailand to cooperate with the Local Administration Department in issuing new application forms for marriage, divorce, reconciliation and changes of individual names and surnames.

The permission to enforce Islamic law outside the Justice Ministry's courts is described as one of the most dramatic changes in favour of Thai Muslims to take place in this country over the past 36 years.

Islamic law has been announced and enforced, without the recognition of Thai justice or law-enforcement officials, since 1946 in the four southern provinces.

The Cabinet also agreed with the Justice Ministry's proposal to improve the standard of Muslim judges (Dato) by setting as a requirement that they receive at least a secondary education in the Thai language.

The present ruling says that a Dato has to finish at least the Prathom 4 (elementary) level in Thai.

A Thai Muslim who applies to be a Dato must also go through an examination in Islamic religion, the Cabinet decided.

The appointment of a Dato will, from now on, be made by Royal decree and he will be entitled to wear a judge's gown while on duty.

The Justice Ministry made the proposal on the legalization of Islamic law in the South following a seminar last March during which many Muslim leaders and representatives discussed the practical obstacles to enforcing Islamic law among Thai Muslims.

MP Den Tohmina (Democrat-Pattani), who is a Muslim, said the new ruling would solve many problems encountered by Thai Muslims in the South as far as the enforcement of Thai and Muslim laws are concerned.

Thai Muslims in the South strictly follow the Islamic law on family and inheritance affairs but this has not been accepted by Thai authorities who base their judgements on Thai law, Den pointed out.

Citing marriage between Thai Muslims, the Democrat MP said Thai Muslim men and women have their marriages registered under the Islamic law.

"When they have to settle disputes at district or provincial offices, they don't have any certificates or documents under the Thai law to show the authorities. Officials, therefore, refuse to do anything for them, be it concerned with land possession, property or inheritance," he said.

THIRD ARMY COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS NOTED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 30 Sep 82 p 5

[Article by S. Kasitipradit]

[Text]

PHU HIN LONG KHLA, a major Red stronghold in the North that straddles three provinces of Petchabun, Phitsanulok and Loei, has finally turned "white". Surprisingly, it was made without severe attacks or heavy clashes between military forces and communist insurgents.

At the height of communist influence, the military itself admitted that it would take years before insurgents in the area could be wiped out. Some predicted heavy casualties on both sides but eventually psychological warfare, launched by the military, has put an end to the drama.

A military officer responsible for the area proudly announced the complete withdrawal of military bases from Phu Hin Long Khla, saying "they are no longer there since there is no need for their presence."

In addition to the northern province of Nan which has been one of the strongest bases of communist terrorists in the North, three other hideouts, namely Khao Khor, Phu Khad and Phu Hin Long Khla, have posed headaches to the government. All the three strongholds are located in areas that join Phitsanulok, Petchabun and Loei.

"If you study the history of the military's suppression against terrorism in the areas, you will see that the authorities had had painstaking efforts in their mission. The terrains are rough and most impossible for

government forces to reach. The masses which comprise thousands of people which sided with the communist were another major obstacle," said Col Pairoj Chan-urai, Commander of the 33rd Civilian-Police-Military Force who is in charge of military operations in the areas between Phitsanulok, Petchabun and Loei. He added: "If you cannot separate the masses from communist terrorists, then your chance of taking over the area is dim."

Among the three major hideouts, Khao Khor was the first and most controversial one that has fallen and was completely taken back by the Third Army Region Command in early last year when it staged a 'blitzkrieg', codenamed "Pa Muang Padet Suek."

Communist terrorists have declared Khao Khor — a plateau that joins two districts of Lomsak and Muang in Petchabun and Nakhon Thai District of Phitsanulok — a "liberated zone" in 1968, followed by bitter clashes and encounters between them and government forces which had tried continuously to win over them.

"Khao Khor is no longer a Red zone and the masses which once sided with the terrorists have turned over to the government. The military has withdrawn its bases from the plateau and there are currently only scores of military officials over there," said Col Pairoj.

One year after its success at Khao Khor, the military continued its anti-communist operations and the next target (in early 1982) was Phu Khad which is located north of Khao Khor.

An intelligence official of the Third Army Region Command said Phu Khad was the commanding post that controlled Khao Khor.

"It was set up in 1962. Its importance was that it commanded all terrorist movement and activities in the areas that straddle the three northern provinces. It was also a command that connected movements in Nan and the Northeast," the official said.

Phu Khad is situated between Nakhon Thai District of Phitsanulok and Na Haew District of Loei.

Col Pairoj said Phu Khad was fallen after the military launched another big operation, called "Pa Muang Kriangkrai" early this year.

Communist terrorists and the masses that sided with them who were flushed out of Khao Khor fled to Phu Khad since the two areas are close to each other, he said.

Col Pairoj described as "very successful" the military operation at Phu Khad because "we could not only seize the area but the masses which numbered in the thousands and who lived with them also turned themselves in to the authorities."

"The massive outflow of thousands of people severely affected the communists and this made it impossible for them to pursue their presence at Phu Khad. They finally moved to Phu Hin Long Khla which is located between Khao Khor and Phu Khad," he said.

He said the seizure of Phu Khad had created positive impact to the military's continued mission in the Red areas.

"Our political operations there have been vital to our success in attracting the masses to desert the communists and come to us," he said.

Col Pairoj said about 8,000 people who left the communist movement in the areas, including some leading communist terrorists, had been used as the government's major forces in its "political invasion" against the communists and their united front which remained in the jungle.

Some of them were assigned to go back to the communist bases to persuade others to surrender to the authorities while others made the persuasion in Hmong dialect on radio, he said.

"Our 'political invasion' severely affected the communist terrorists and those who still lived with them at Phu Hin Long Khla - their last stronghold," Col Pairoj said.

The 48-year-old colonel said he was worried when he was first assigned to the areas late last year.

"At that time," he said, "Phu Hin Long Khla was pure red. We gradually changed it until it became orange, then pink and now several zones are white. At first I thought it would take the authorities at least three years before they could destroy the communist stronghold. Now I can proudly say that we can wipe out nearly all the powers of the terrorists at Phu Hin Long Khla."

Major instructions during the operations to regain Phu Hin Long Khla were: The authorities have been ordered to specially and sincerely treat those who deserted the communists and surrendered to the government.

"Some of them whose family members were separated from them are helped by us. We helped them search for their relatives until they are reunited. They, of course, appreciated our assistance and sincerity," he said.

Col Pairoj said one of the reasons that barred these people from leaving the communist hideouts were propaganda by terrorists who misled women that they would be raped and men that they would be maltreated by government officials if they gave up to the government.

"We, therefore, have to erase all these misunderstandings. We treated them very well and they are then sent into the jungle to tell their colleagues who are still going through hardships of the treatment they received from us.

Their assurance, though verbal, created courage and confidence among others who slowly decided to leave the jungle to surrender to the government," he explained.

The military, he said, has numerous methods to attract the defectors. "We gave them a chance to compare the positive sides of living in town and the negative sides of remaining in the jungle. They always have the notion that lives outside the jungle are bad, we therefore have to treat them well."

He said many hilltribesmen who defected from the communist movement have been specially helped by the authorities and "we also arranged excursions to Bangkok for many of them to give them a chance to see other parts of the country."

"They have been living in the jungle for the whole of their lives and they were given wrong information on the central government and the authorities. We have to create a new feeling and right understanding through all kinds of efforts including education in order to attract them to live with us and not to return to the jungle."

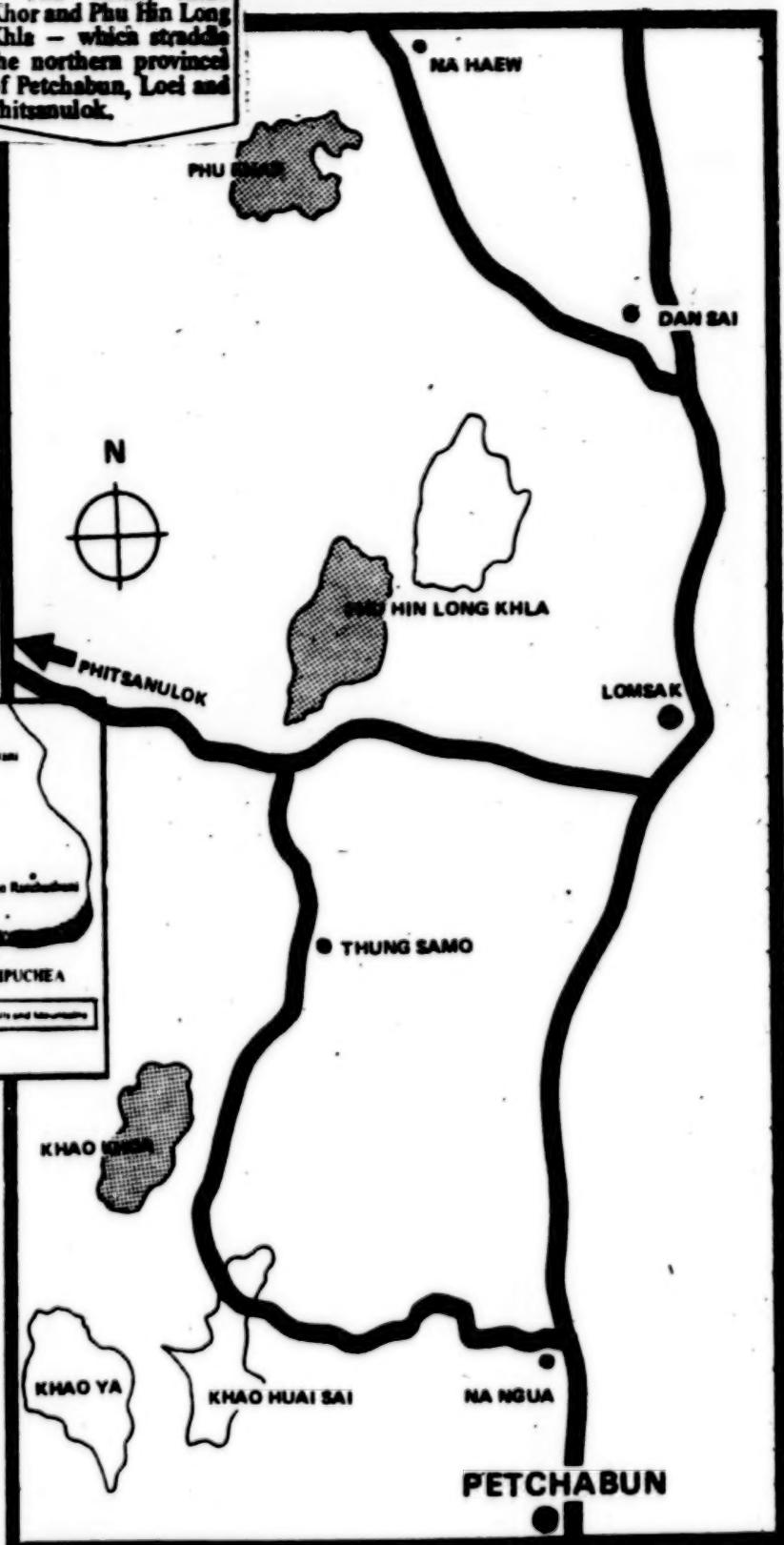


How is the chance for the return of communist insurgency in the areas that straddle the three northern provinces?

Col Pairoj said this will have to mainly depend on the government and the authorities. "If we treated the masses which defected to us badly, chances for them to return to the jungle are high."

The communist movement can never materialize without the support of the masses as its united front, he said, adding, "Phu Hin Long Khla is a classic example. We managed to turn the Red area into white without having to use military forces because of our success in attracting the masses to come and join us. It sounds incredible, isn't it? But we finally made it," Col Pairoj concluded proudly.

NATIONMAP shows the three sensitive areas — Phu Khad, Khao Khor and Phu Hin Long Khla — which straddle the northern provinces of Petchabun, Loei and Phitsanulok.



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